

FIRST STEPS TO MASTERING THE JAPANESE WRITING SYSTEM

Japanese HIRAGANA & KATAKANA for Beginners



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The method that's helped thousands in
the U.S. and Japan learn Japanese successfully

TUTTLE

TIMOTHY G. STOUT

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the U.S. and Japan learn Japanese successfully

Timothy G. Stout
Illustrated by Alexis Cowan

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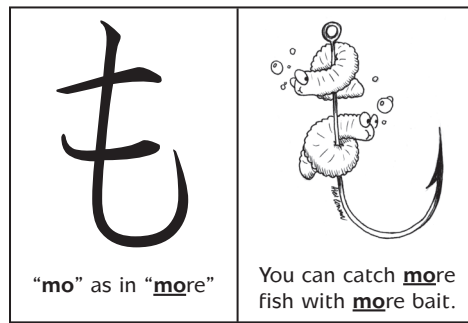
<http://www.tuttlepublishing.com/japanese-hiragana-katakana-for-beginners-downloadable-cd-content>

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Introduction

You probably picked up this book because you are interested in the best way to learn hiragana and katakana. If so, you came to the right place. The methods in this book have helped thousands of students in the United States and Japan to successfully learn both, and they can help you too.

This book makes learning hiragana and katakana fast and effective by using clear explanations and examples and lots of fun exercises. It also features memorable picture mnemonics like the one below. Picture mnemonics enhance memory by associating the shape and sound of each character with pictures and English words already familiar to you. For example, the hiragana character “**mo**” as in “**more**” looks like a fishhook intersected by two lines, leading to the idea that “you can catch **more** fish with **more** bait.”



Katakana and hiragana characters—together called **kana**—are the two sets of 46 phonetic characters used in Japanese. An average, diligent student can learn to read the basic 46 hiragana and 46 katakana characters in a few hours, and with persistence can learn to write them in a few days. If you study for thirty minutes a day, in a few short weeks you will be a confident reader and writer of hiragana and katakana.

How to Use This Book

This introduction gives you basic information about the characters: where they came from, how to pronounce and write them, and even how to write your name.

Both hiragana and katakana are essential to basic Japanese proficiency, but normally hiragana is learned first. In Section One you will learn the basic 46 hiragana characters, and how to write some simple words. Section Two introduces the usage rules that will allow you to write all of the sounds of Japanese and gives you more opportunities for practice. Section Three strengthens your hiragana skills through a wide range of exercises designed to both increase your knowledge of the Japanese language and reinforce your newly acquired writing skills. Then in Sections Four, Five and Six you will follow the very same process to master the katakana characters.

At the end of the book you will find a list of suggested flash card activities. Since it is easier to learn to recognize hiragana and katakana than to write them, you may want to begin with the flash cards, printing them from the CD-ROM and reviewing them often. As you learn to recognize the characters, you will find it much easier to write them. Whether you begin with the writing sections or the flash cards, you will get the most out of this book by doing all the activities.

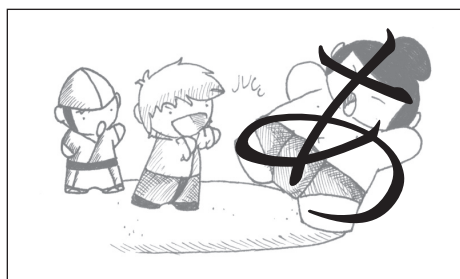
An Overview of the Japanese Writing System

Japanese uses four types of scripts: hiragana, katakana, kanji and romaji.

- **Hiragana** is a cursive set of 46 phonetic characters that express all of the sounds of Japanese. Hiragana is used mainly for writing the grammatical parts of sentences and native Japanese words for which there are no kanji.
- **Katakana** is an angular set of 46 phonetic characters, generally used for writing foreign words and for showing emphasis.
- **Kanji** are characters of ancient Chinese origin that represent ideas and sounds, and they are used for most nouns, verbs and other “content” words. There are 2,131 “common use” kanji that school children must learn by ninth grade.
- **Romaji** are roman (Latin) letters used to write Japanese; you must already know romaji since you are reading this. Romaji is used in textbooks and dictionaries for foreigners learning Japanese (and for Japanese people learning western languages) but its use in day-to-day writing is somewhat limited to things like company names and acronyms.

ひらがな Hiragana	カタカナ Katakana	漢字 Kanji	Romaji
------------------	------------------	-------------	--------

Don't be too intimidated by the number and seeming complexity of Japanese characters. Japan's 99 percent literacy rate should allay any fears that learning Japanese is impossible. Compared to kanji, kana characters are not complex; each one only has between one and four strokes. Each set of kana has 46 characters, compared to the English alphabet which has 52 letters (26 upper case and 26 lower case). Although kana characters have a few more overall strokes than the letters of the alphabet, kana have a consistent one-to-one relationship between character and sound. By contrast more than half of the English alphabet letters have multiple pronunciations, and seemingly endless exceptions. Anyone who has learned the complexities of English spelling can succeed at learning kana. So, although learning hiragana and katakana may at first seem to be a Sumo-sized task, with the right training and practice you can do it! Before you know it you'll be a kana champion!



Don't rely on romaji. Foreigners learning Japanese sometimes rely on romaji, never learning to read and write. While it is possible to become quite proficient in speaking Japanese using only romaji, you will not be truly literate. Get comfortable using hiragana. When you buy a dictionary make sure it is written in hiragana, not romaji. When you write in Japanese use hiragana and katakana and kanji characters as you learn them.

How to Pronounce Hiragana and Katakana

Hiragana and katakana are pronounced the same way. The first five characters are the five Japanese vowels. Japanese vowels are short and clipped compared to English vowels. (All of the examples in this book use Standard American English pronunciation).

a	as in father
i	as in easy
u	as in you
e	as in red
o	as in oak

The rest of the characters are consonant-vowel combinations, with the consonant always coming first (e.g., “**ka**,” “**ki**,” “**ku**,” “**ke**” and “**ko**”). The one exception is the single consonant syllable “**n**” that is pronounced by touching the back of the tongue to the roof of the mouth, as in “**ink**” and “**sing**.” Many Japanese consonants are commonly found in English and are easy to pronounce.

k	as in coat	g	as in goat (voiced version of k)
s	as in Sue	z	as in zoo (voiced version of g)
t	as in tie	d	as in dye (voiced version of t)
n	as in no		
h	as in house		
p	as in pig	b	as in big (voiced version of p)
m	as in man		

Several Japanese consonants, however, are not commonly found in English and require special attention. One is the Japanese “**r**.” In English “**r**” is pronounced by curling the tongue so the sides touch the upper teeth (not touching the tip of the tongue). In Japanese, “**r**” is pronounced by tapping the tongue against the ridge behind the upper teeth, as in “**paddle**” and “**ladder**,” sounding like a combination of “**l**” and “**d**”; it is not a rolling trill as in Spanish. “**tsu**” is pronounced as in “**tsunami**” and “**cat’s whiskers**.” “**fu**” is pronounced without touching the upper teeth and lower lip. It almost sounds like “**who**” and “**hooting owl**,” except the lips are more pursed and air escapes more quickly.

The special consonant “**y**” as in “**yarn**” is paired with the vowels “**a**,” “**u**” and “**o**” to make the syllables “**ya**,” “**yu**” and “**yo**.” This consonant is special because Japanese uses it extensively in combination with all of the other consonants to form additional syllables, such as “**kya**,” “**kyu**” and “**kyo**.” In order to accommodate more foreign syllables, many more character combinations are used in katakana (see Section Five).

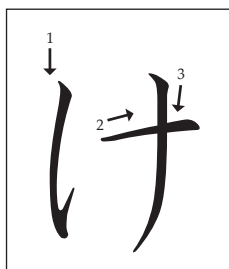
Although katakana tries to represent **gairaigo** (“loan words”) as faithfully as possible, the words sound distinctly Japanese. In 1991 the Japanese government updated the official guidelines for writing **gairaigo**. The guidelines included 33 more combined characters for writing foreign words. These 33 combined characters are not the limit—the guidelines clearly state that other combinations can be made as needed. Still, all syllables must conform to the basics of Japanese phonology (see Section Two).

How to Write Hiragana

Hiragana is the first writing system that Japanese children learn. It is not uncommon for a four-year-old to be able to fluently read children's books and the like because of hiragana's simple one-to-one correspondence between characters and sounds. Hiragana can easily be used to write any word or phrase, and even adults will sometimes substitute hiragana for difficult or uncommon kanji characters.

According to the U.S. Foreign Service Institute, it takes approximately 1,300 hours to acquire advanced Japanese proficiency, but much less time is required for basic proficiency. Hiragana is a great place to begin. The immediate benefits of learning hiragana include improving your pronunciation and gaining access to hundreds of dictionaries, textbooks, and other learning and enrichment materials written with hiragana. Plus, all of the writing skills of hiragana are transferable to learning katakana and kanji, making them easier to learn.

There are various styles used to write hiragana, but this book only uses the most standard **kyōkashotai** or "schoolbook" style. Hiragana characters are composed of three types of strokes: "stops," "jumps" and "brushes." With a stop, the pencil must come to a stop before it is removed from the paper. Jumps are written by removing the pencil from the paper as it moves to the next stroke. With a brush, the pencil is slowly removed from the paper as the stroke is written, giving it a tapered, sweeping appearance. In the example below, the character "**ke**" as in "**K**evin" is written with all three types of strokes. The first stroke is a jump, the second is a stop, and the third is a brush.



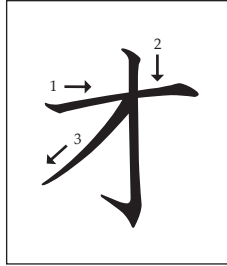
Writing the correct stroke types in the correct order is important for forming balanced, legible characters. With practice you will get the hang of it. You can make your characters look more authentic by slightly tilting left-to-right strokes, as in stroke two in "**ke**" (see above), rather than writing them straight across. Character strokes are generally written from left to right and top to bottom. Try to center each character in an imaginary box, not too far to the left, right, top or bottom.

Correct!	Wrong	Wrong	Wrong	Wrong

Traditionally Japanese was written from top to bottom, progressing in columns from right to left across the page. Now it is also commonly written from left to right, as with English. All the hiragana in this book is written from left to right.

How to Write Katakana

Katakana characters also are composed of the same three types of strokes we discussed above: “stops,” “jumps” and “brushes.” In the following example, the character “o” as in “oak” is written with all three types of strokes. The first is a stop, the second a jump, and the third is a brush.



Compare the hiragana and katakana characters below. Hiragana characters are curved and looping, but katakana characters are straight and angled. Katakana also has fewer “jumps” and more “stops” and “brushes.”

a	i	ka	ki	sa	shi	ta	chi
あ	い	か	き	さ	し	た	ち
ア	イ	カ	キ	サ	シ	タ	チ

Some hiragana and katakana characters look alike, like “ka” and “ki.” The picture mnemonics for these katakana characters are the same as the hiragana characters—another good reason you should master hiragana first.

Writing the correct stroke type in the correct order is important for forming balanced, legible characters. With practice you will get the hang of it. You can make your characters look more authentic by slightly tilting left-to-right strokes, as in stroke one in “o” (see above), rather than writing them straight across. Character strokes are generally written from left to right and top to bottom. Try to center each character in the middle of an imaginary box, not too far to the top, bottom, left, or right.

オ	オ	オ	オ	オ
Correct!	Wrong	Wrong	Wrong	Wrong

Writing Your Name in Japanese

Most beginning learners enjoy katakana because it is relatively simple to learn, and it is immediately useful. You write your name and your friends' names in katakana. You can guess many of the katakana words found in Japanese texts you read. Soon reading and writing katakana will become second nature, and all your hard work will begin to pay off.

Try to find your name in the “Names in Katakana” lists provided on the CD-ROM. Only one Japanese spelling is given for all of the names with the same pronunciation, such as Amy, Ami, Amie and Aimee. The names are listed under the most common spelling. If you don't see your name in the list and your name is a nickname, try looking for the formal version (i.e., “Richard” instead of “Rick”). If you still can't find your name, it may not be one of the most common. Never fear, you can ask your teacher or a Japanese friend for help. Any name can be written in Japanese. Practice writing your name in the spaces provided (don't worry if you leave some boxes unused).

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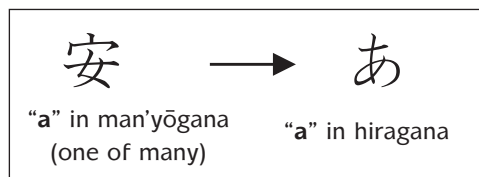
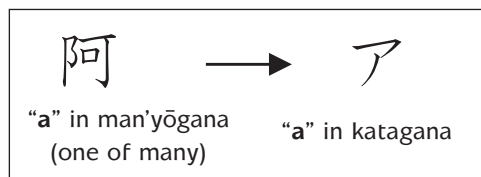
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Where Hiragana and Katakana Came From

Although hiragana characters look like the picture mnemonics in this book, they did not originally come from pictures. Hiragana characters were developed based on simplified cursive-style kanji during the Heian Period (794-1185 AD). China, one of the great civilizations of the ancient world, had a huge influence on its Asian neighbors, including Japan. Kanji were first introduced to Japan around the 5th century AD.

The Japanese upper classes made a serious study of Chinese language, religion and government, and along with adopting new perspectives and practices, they adopted thousands of words and the kanji used to write them. The earliest official documents were written in Chinese, and for a long time Chinese was considered the language of the educated. Japanese also used kanji, however, to write poetry and prose in Japanese. This was problematic since spoken Japanese and Chinese were very different, but the Japanese overcame this challenge by giving kanji new Japanese pronunciations, and by using some kanji as phonetic characters to be able to express native Japanese words and grammatical elements in writing.

Kanji used as phonetic characters were called kana or “borrowed names,” implying that using kanji to express only sounds was not the regular practice. The first set of kana, called **man'yōgana** (the line above the “o” indicates it is two syllables in length), was difficult to read because there were no one-to-one relationships between the characters and sounds, plus there were hundreds of them. **Man'yōgana** was also difficult to write because each phonetic syllable had to be written in kanji. To simplify things, two sets of kana called katakana and hiragana were developed over time. Katakana or “partial kana” as the name suggests was developed from parts of kanji (see the following example).



Writing with katakana was originally limited to men, and used in official documents. Hiragana or “common kana” was developed based on simplified versions of entire kanji characters (see example above). It was used in informal writing, such as letters and diaries, and it was referred to as **onna-de** or “woman’s hand.”

Ironically, during the Heian period while the men were attempting to write in “superior” Chinese, some women who learned to write in hiragana produced the finest literature of the period. *The Tale of Genji* written 1,000 years ago by a court lady named Murasaki Shikibu is generally regarded as the world’s first novel, and a classic. In time, men began using hiragana as well. Today Japanese is written with a mix of hiragana, katakana, kanji and romaji.



The Tale of Genji by Murasaki Shikibu
is over 1,000 pages in English translation.

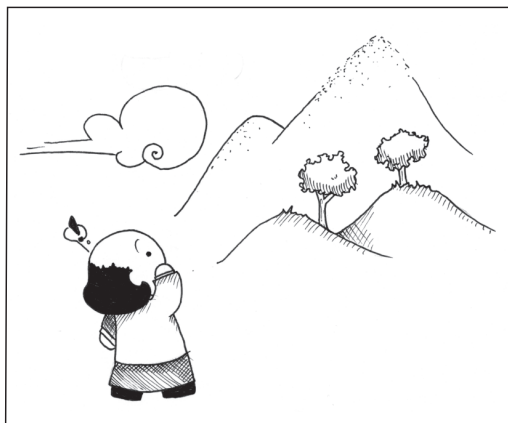
History aside, you may be wondering why Japanese still has *two* sets of phonetic characters. The main reason is that it makes reading easier—katakana words stand out in a text, like a highlighter. When you see a katakana word, you immediately know it falls into one of six categories:

1. **Gairaigo** or “loan words”
2. Foreign place names and personal names
3. Onomatopoeia (sound symbolic words), like “buzz,” “flip” and “bow wow,” which are much more numerous in Japanese than in English
4. Emphasis words—normally written in hiragana or kanji, but that the writer wants to draw attention to
5. Dictionary entries of **on-yomi** or the “Chinese readings” of kanji

6. Others, such as transcriptions of the Ainu language (indigenous to northern Japan), and some official documents of pre-modern Japan

Gairaigo or “loan words,” such as **konpyūtā** (computer), **nyūsu** (news), and **resutoran** (restaurant), comprise the biggest category of katakana words, with tens of thousands in common use. Most **gairaigo** come from English, so even beginning learners can often correctly guess what a Japanese article is about just from scanning the text for **gairaigo**. Topics like sports, medicine, business, economy, technology, and science have numerous **gairaigo**.

Japanese Hiragana and Katakana for Beginners is the right place to begin your Japanese studies. As you learn kana you will be taking the first steps to mastering the Japanese writing system and its pronunciation. Taking Japanese in small steps will make it more manageable. As the Japanese proverb states, “Even dust piled up becomes a mountain.” or in other words, little things add up!



ちりも積もれば山となる

chiri mo tsumoreba yama to naru

(Even dust piled up becomes a mountain.)

Good luck as you embark on this new journey. As you increase your understanding of the Japanese people and their wonderful culture and language you will find fresh encouragement to carry on. One step at a time you can do anything. So, let's get started. Turn the page and begin your journey.

SECTION ONE

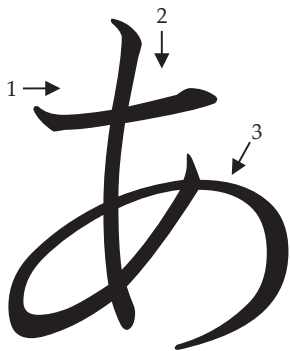
The Basic 46 Hiragana Characters

a あ	i い	u う	e え	o お
ka か	ki き	ku く	ke け	ko こ
sa さ	shi し	su す	se せ	so そ
ta た	chi ち	tsu つ	te て	to と
na な	ni に	nu ぬ	ne ね	no の
ha (wa)* は	hi ひ	fu ふ	he (e)* へ	ho ほ
ma ま	mi み	mu む	me め	mo も
ya や		yu ゆ		yo よ
ra ら	ri り	ru る	re れ	ro ろ
wa わ				o** を
n ん				

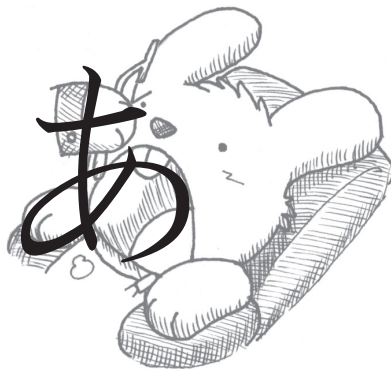


* These characters are pronounced differently when they are used as grammatical particles.

** This character is only used as a grammatical particle. It is not used to write words.



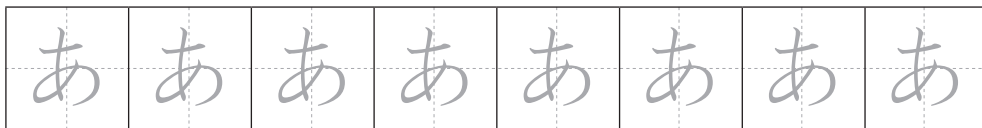
“a” as in father



“Open your mouth and say ‘Ah,’”
says the dentist.

Writing Tip “a” has three strokes: 1) a stop, 2) stop and 3) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. a ka (red)

	か
--	---

2. a ri (ant)

	り
--	---

3. a sa (morning)

	さ
--	---

4. a ki (autumn)

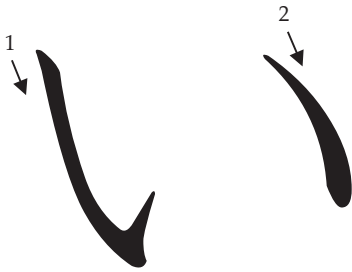
	き
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5. a me (rain; hard candy)

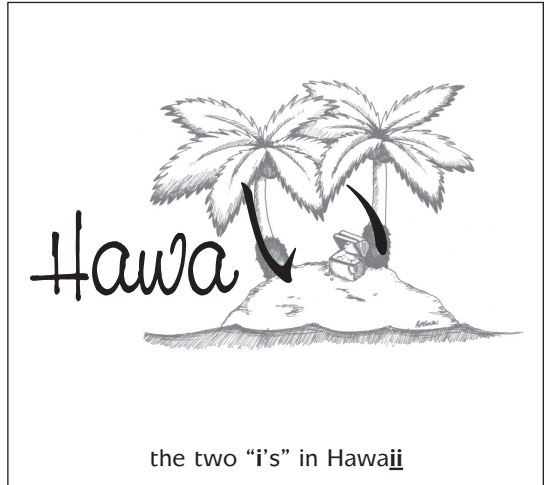
	め
--	---

6. a o (blue)

	お
--	---

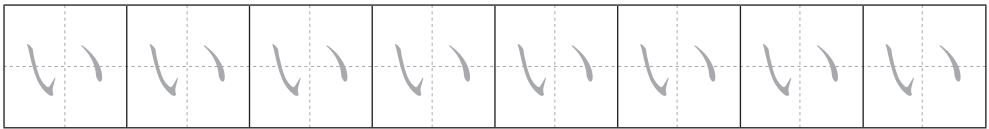


“i” as in easy



Writing Tip “i” has two strokes: 1) a jump and 2) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **i i** (good)

2. **i su** (chair)

		す

3. **ha i** (Yes!)

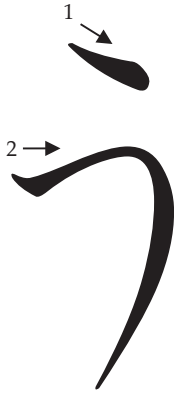
は		

4. **o i shi i** (delicious)

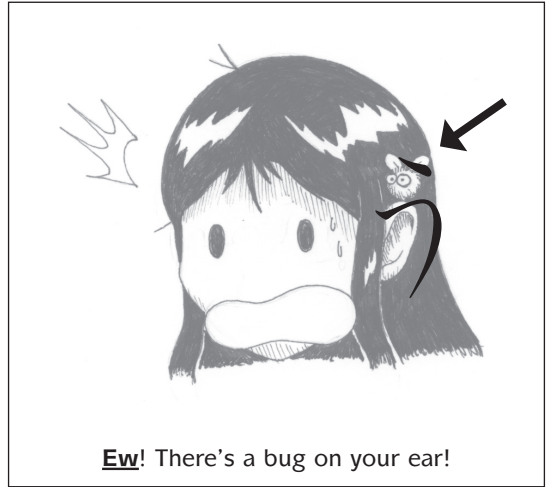
お			し		

5. **i ka** (squid)

		か

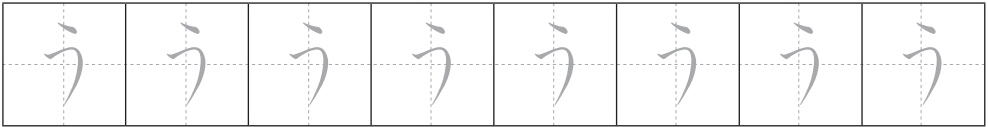


“u” as in youth



Writing Tip “u” has two strokes: 1) a stop and 2) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. u chi (home)

	ち
--	---

2. u de (arm)

	で
--	---

3. u e (up)

	え
--	---

4. u shi (cow)

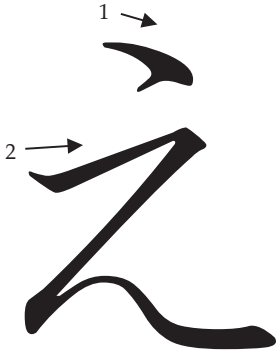
	し
--	---

5. u ma (horse)

	ま
--	---

6. u me (plum)

	め
--	---



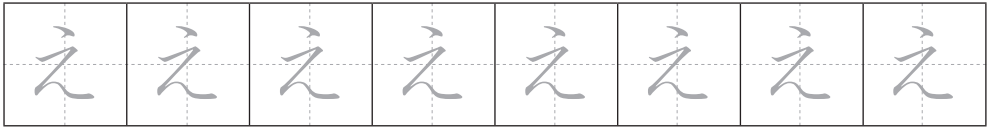
“e” as in **red**



An elf is hanging ornaments
on a Christmas tree.

Writing Tip “e” has two strokes: 1) a jump and 2) zigzag stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. e ki (train station)

		き

2. ma e (in front of)

ま		

3. e e (yes – colloquial)

4. e n (yen)

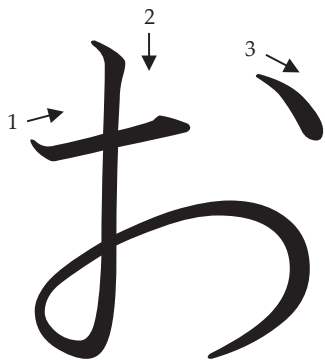
		ん

5. ha e (fly)

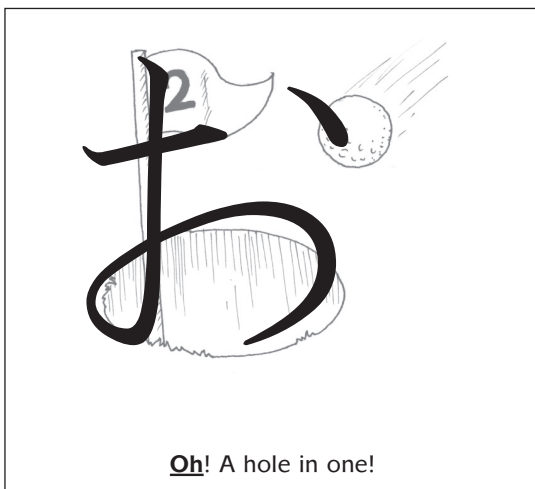
は		

6. e bi (shrimp)

		び



“o” as in oak



Oh! A hole in one!

Writing Tip “o” has three strokes: 1) a stop, 2) brush and 3) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. ka o (face)

か		
---	--	--

2. o o ki i (big)

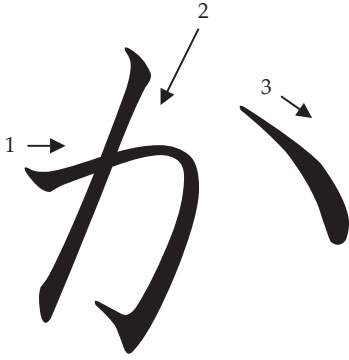
		き	い
--	--	---	---

3. o ha shi (chopsticks)

	は	し
--	---	---

4. o ka shi (snacks)

	か	し
--	---	---



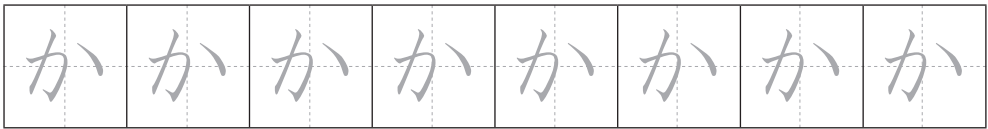
“ka” as in car



Kah! A crow cries as it flies to a tree on the top of a cliff.

Writing Tip “ka” has three strokes: 1) a jump, 2) stop and 3) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **mi ka n** (mandarin orange)

み			ん
---	--	--	---

2. **ka** (mosquito) 3. **ka sa** (umbrella)

			さ
--	--	--	---

4. **chi ka** (basement)

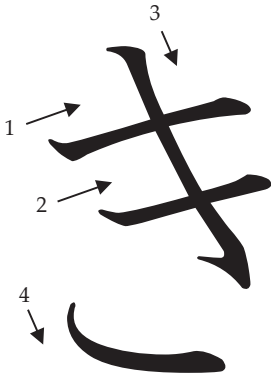
ち		
---	--	--

5. **ka mi** (hair; paper; God)

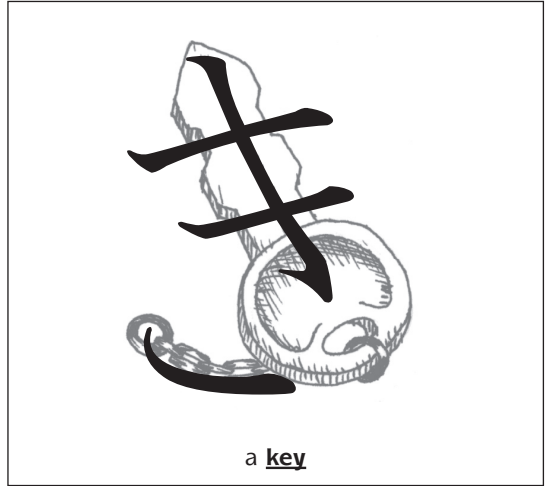
		み
--	--	---

6. **na ka** (inside)

な		
---	--	--



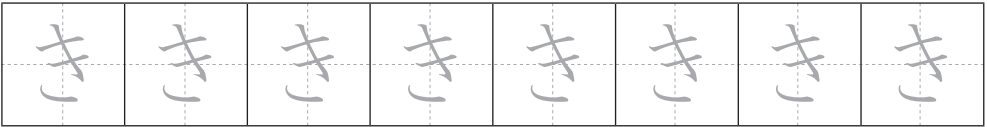
“ki” as in key



a key

Writing Tip “ki” has four strokes: 1) a stop, 2) stop, 3) jump and 4) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **yu ki** (snow)

ゆ			
---	--	--	--

2. **ki ta** (north)

		た	
--	--	---	--

3. **e ki** (train station)

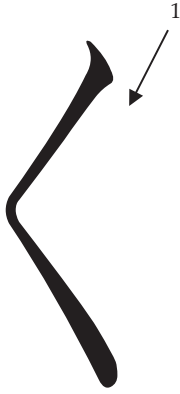
え			
---	--	--	--

4. **te n ki** (weather)

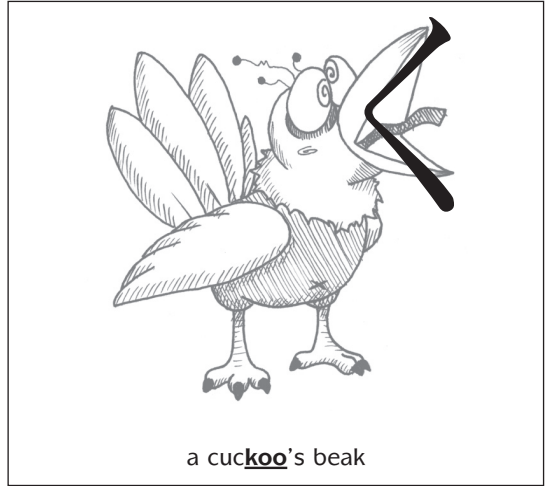
て	ん		
---	---	--	--

5. **ki i ro** (yellow)

		い	ろ
--	--	---	---

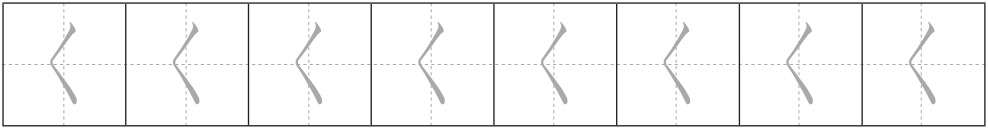


“ku” as in cuckuo



Writing Tip “ku” has one stroke: a stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. ku ro (black)

	ろ
--	---

2. ku chi (mouth)

	ち
--	---

3. ni ku (meat)

に	
---	--

4. ku tsu (shoe)

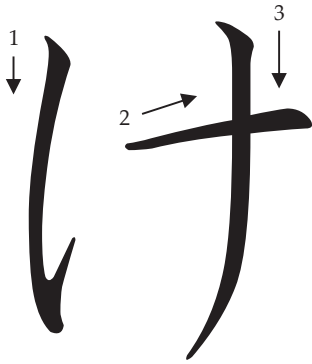
	つ
--	---

5. ku ma (bear)

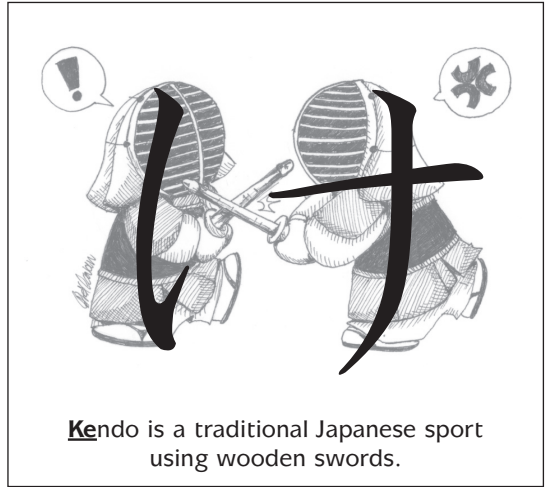
	ま
--	---

6. ku mo (spider; cloud)

	も
--	---



“ke” as in Kevin



Kendo is a traditional Japanese sport using wooden swords.

Writing Tip “ke” has three strokes: 1) a jump, 2) stop and 3) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **ta ke** (bamboo)

た			
---	--	--	--

2. **i ke** (pond)

い			
---	--	--	--

3. **ke su** (to erase)

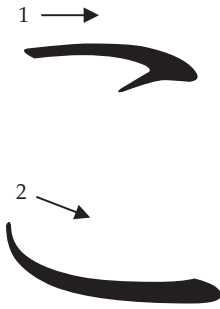
		す	
--	--	---	--

4. **to ke i** (clock)

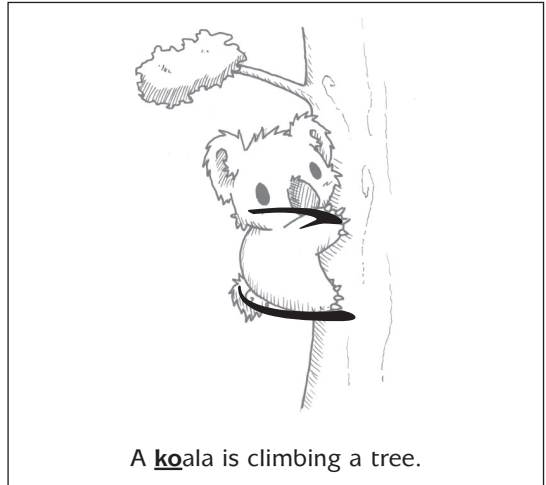
と			い
---	--	--	---

5. **ta su ke te** (Help!)

た	す			て
---	---	--	--	---

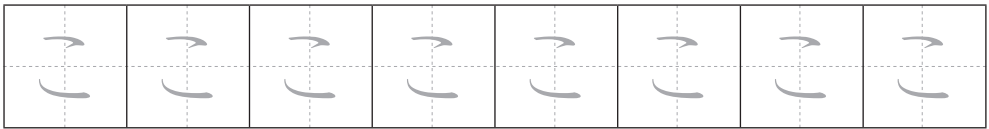


“ko” as in koala



Writing Tip “ko” has two strokes: 1) a jump and 2) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. ko re (this)

		れ

2. do ko (where?)

ど	

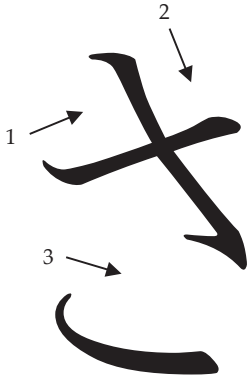
3. ko ko (here)

4. ko do mo (child)

ど	も

5. i to ko (cousin)

い	と	



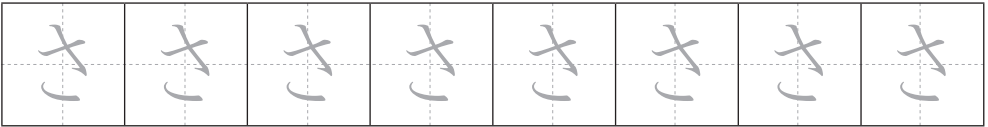
“sa” as in saw



He saw something that made him smile.

Writing Tip “sa” has three strokes: 1) a stop, 2) jump and 3) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. sa mu i (cold)

		む	い

2. ha sa mi (scissors)

は		み

3. sa n (Mr./Mrs./Ms./Miss)

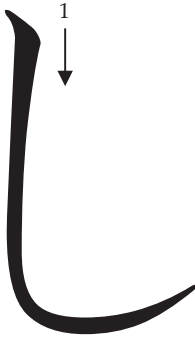
	ん

4. sa n (three)

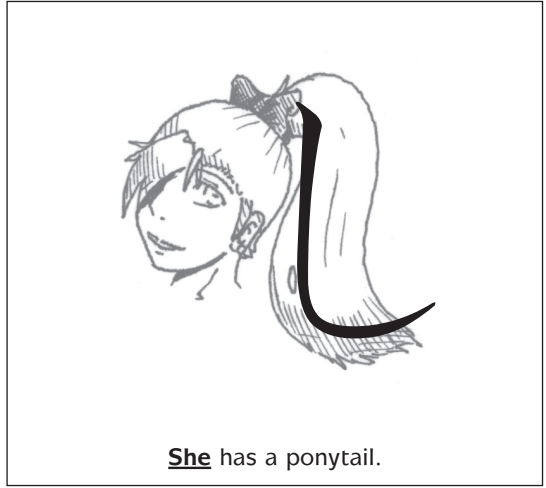
	ん

5. sa ru (monkey)

	る



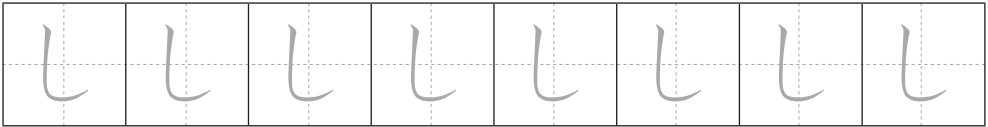
“shi” as in she



She has a ponytail.

Writing Tip “shi” has one stroke: a brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **shi ro** (white)

	ろ

2. **a shi** (legs)

あ	

3. **shi o** (salt)

	お

4. **mu shi** (insect)

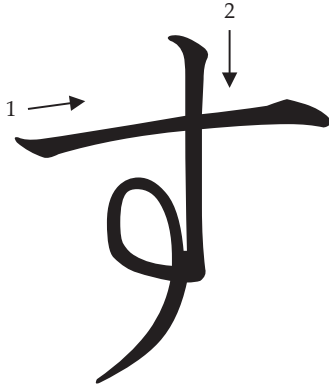
む	

5. **shi ka** (deer)

	か

6. **na shi** (Asian pear)

な	



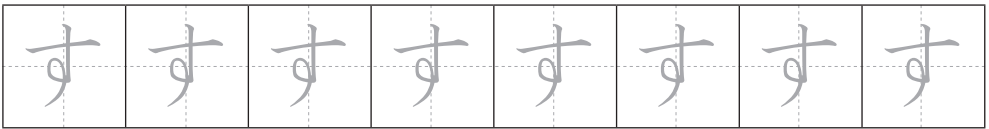
“su” as in super



It’s another perfect dive by Super Diver.

Writing Tip “su” has two strokes: 1) a stop and 2) looping brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **su mō** (sumo)

	も	う

2. **su** (vinegar)

3. **su shi** (sushi)

	し

4. **ri su** (squirrel)

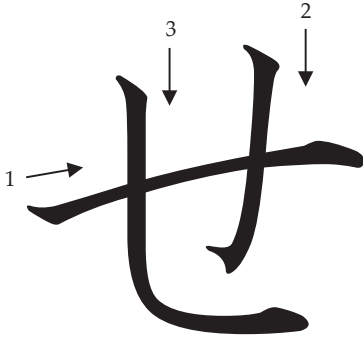
り	

5. **su ki** (like – adjective)

	き

6. **su ru** (to do)

	る



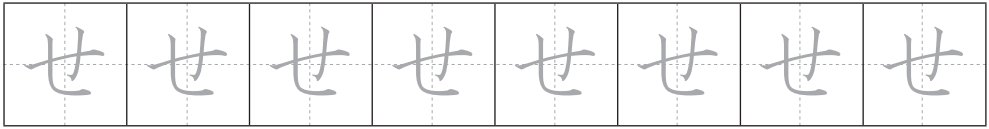
“se” as in set



Mother sets Baby on her lap.

Writing Tip “se” has three strokes: 1) a stop, 2) jump and 3) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **se n se i** (teacher; doctor; dentist)

	ん		い
--	---	--	---

2. **se na ka** (a person's back)

	な	か
--	---	---

3. **se mi** (cicada)

	み
--	---

4. **se ki** (cough; seat)

	き
--	---

5. **se n** (one thousand)

	ん
--	---

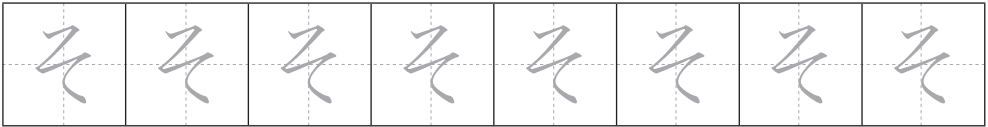


“so” as in sewing machine



Writing Tip “so” has one stroke: a zigzag stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. so to (outside)

2. so ko (there)

3. so re (that)

4. so ba (buckwheat noodles)

5. so ra (sky)

6. u so (lie; false)

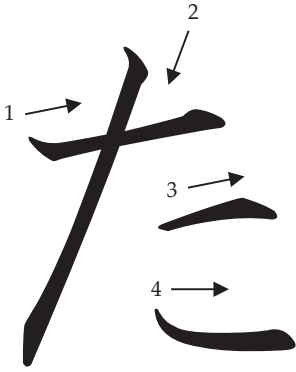
READING PRACTICE 1: あ～そ

You should be able to read the words below now. Fold the page lengthwise (or cover it with your hand) so you can only see the hiragana words on the left hand side. Try reading them aloud and then check with the words on the right. Keep practicing until you can read them all. For an extra challenge try reading the Japanese and saying the English word before checking.

あ	か			a ka (red)
あ	お			a o (blue)
あ	き			a ki (autumn)
い	い			i i (good)
い	す			i su (chair)
お	い	し	い	o i shi i (delicious)
う	え			u e (up, above)
う	し			u shi (cow)
え	き			e ki (train station)
え	え			e e (yes – colloquial)
お	お	き	い	o o ki i (big)
か				ka (mosquito)
か	お			ka o (face)
お	か	し		o ka shi (snacks)
い	け			i ke (pond)
け	す			ke su (to erase)
こ	こ			ko ko (here)
あ	さ			a sa (morning)
か	さ			ka sa (umbrella)
あ	し			a shi (leg; foot)
し	お			shi o (salt)
し	か			shi ka (deer)
す				su (vinegar)
す	し			su shi (sushi)
す	き			su ki (like – adjective)
せ	き			se ki (cough; seat)
そ	こ			so ko (there)
う	そ			u so (lie; false)

Romaji pronunciation guide:

a	as in father
i	as in easy
u	as in you
e	as in red
o	as in oak



“ta” as in talk



“t” and “a” spell “ta”

Writing Tip “ta” has four strokes and all four are stops.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. a **ta** ma (head)



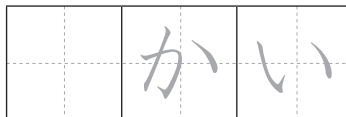
2. ta no **shi i** (fun; enjoyable)



3. i **ta i** (Ouch!)



4. ta **ka i** (high; tall; expensive)





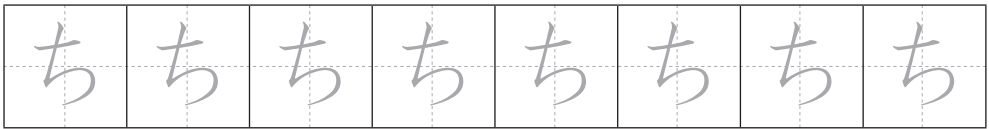
“chi” as in cheer



a cheerleader

Writing Tip “chi” has two strokes: 1) a stop and 2) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. i **chi** (one)

い			
---	--	--	--

2. u **chi** (home; house)

う			
---	--	--	--

3. ku **chi** (mouth)

く			
---	--	--	--

4. mi **chi** (road; path)

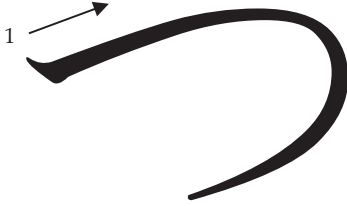
み			
---	--	--	--

5. shi **chi** (seven)

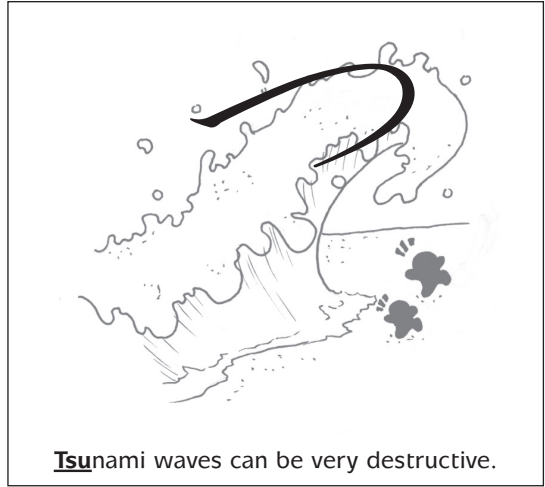
し			
---	--	--	--

6. ha **chi** (eight; bee)

は			
---	--	--	--



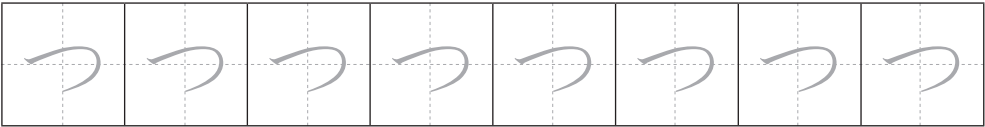
“tsu” as in tsunam



Tsunam

Writing Tip “tsu” has one stroke: a brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. a **tsu** i (hot)

あ			い
---	--	--	---

2. **tsu na mi** (tsunami wave)

	な	み
--	---	---

3. i **tsu** (when)

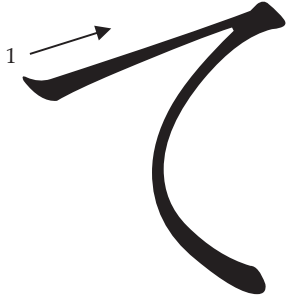
い		
---	--	--

4. **ku tsu** (shoes)

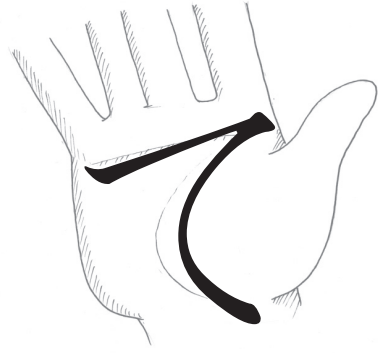
く		
---	--	--

5. **tsu yo i** (strong)

	よ	い
--	---	---



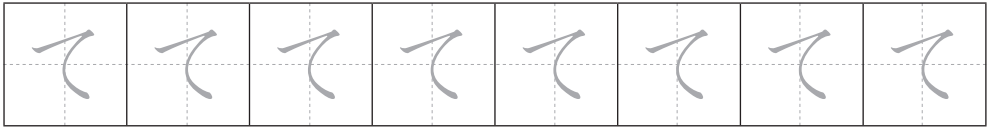
“te” as in ten



The shape of “te” is in the palm of your right hand, and the word for “hand” in Japanese is “te.”

Writing Tip “te” has one stroke: a stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **te** (hand)

2. **ka ra te** (karate)

か	ら	

3. **su te ki** (lovely; cool; superb)

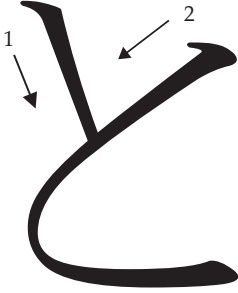
す		き

4. **chi ka te tsu** (subway)

ち	か		つ

5. **te n ki** (weather)

	ん	き



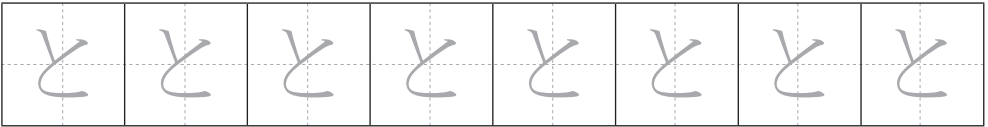
“to” as in toe



Ouch! There’s a thorn in my toe!

Writing Tip “to” has two strokes and both are stops.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. to ra (tiger)

	ら
--	---

2. to ri (bird)

	り
--	---

3. hi to (person)

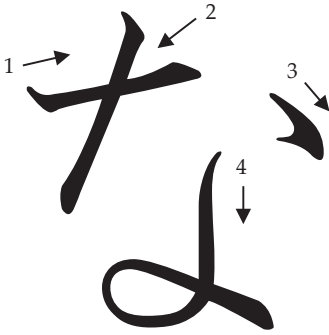
ひ	
---	--

4. so to (outside)

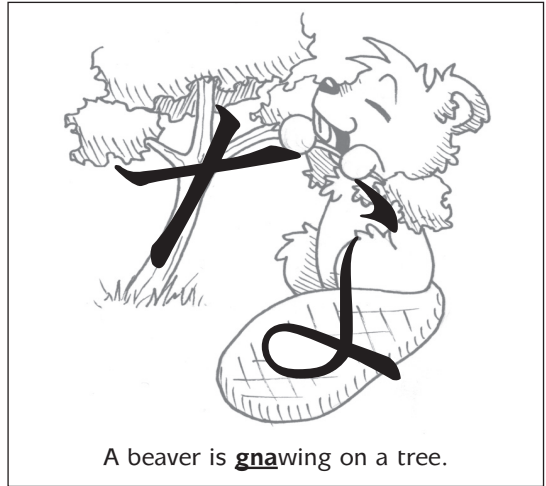
そ	
---	--

5. o to to i (day before yesterday)

お			い
---	--	--	---



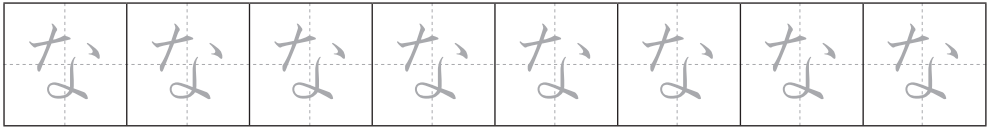
“na” as in to **gnaw**



A beaver is **gnawing** on a tree.

Writing Tip “na” has four strokes: 1) a stop, 2) stop, 3) jump and 4) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

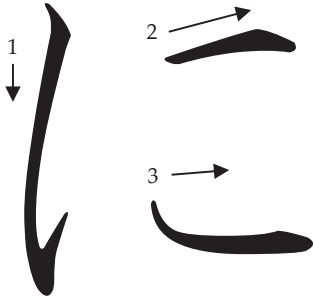
1. **na tsu** (summer)

2. **na ni** (what)

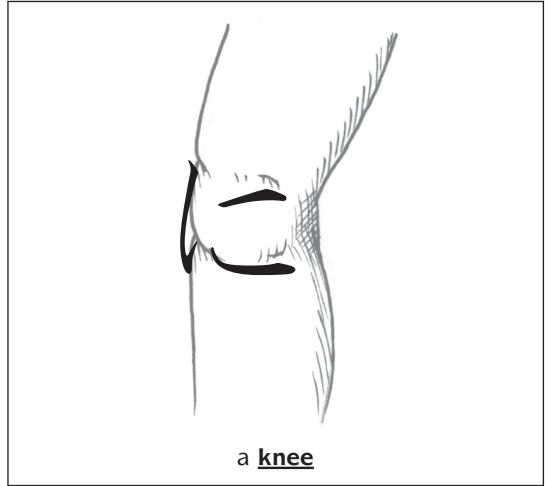
3. **na ka** (inside; middle)

4. **na ma e** (name)

5. **mi n na** (all; everyone)



“ni” as in knee



a knee

Writing Tip “ni” has three strokes: 1) a jump, 2) stop and 3) stop.

Trace these characters.

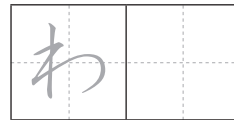
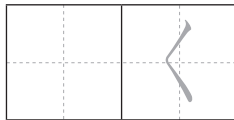
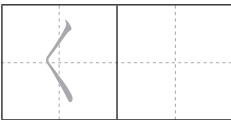


Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **ku ni** (country; nation)

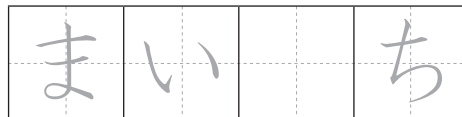
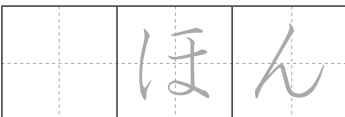
2. **ni ku** (meat)

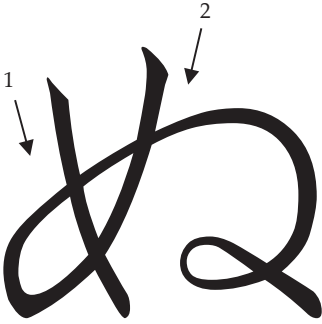
3. **wa ni** (alligator)



4. **ni ho n** (Japan)

5. **ma i ni chi** (everyday)





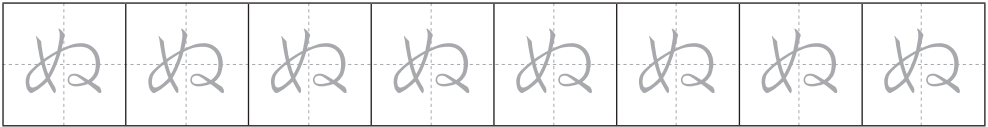
“nu” as in new



a new bicycle

Writing Tip “nu” has two strokes: 1) a stop and 2) looping stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. i nu (dog)

い	
---	--

2. nu i gu ru mi (stuffed animal)

	い	ぐ	る	み
--	---	---	---	---

3. shi nu (to die)

し	
---	--

4. nu ru (to paint; to color)

	る
--	---

5. nu ma (swamp; pond)

	ま
--	---

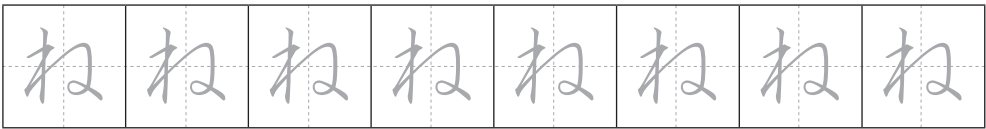


“ne” as in nest



Writing Tip “ne” has two strokes: 1) a stop and 2) zigzag, looping stop. (It looks like a “1,” “7” and “2” all together).

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. ne ko (cat)

	こ

2. mu ne (chest)

む	

3. o ka ne (money)

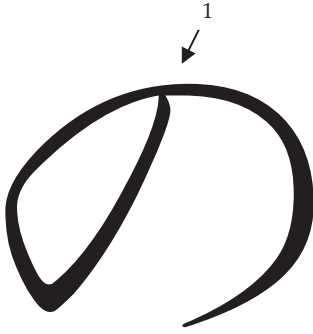
お	か	

4. ne ru (to sleep; lie down) 5. ne tsu (fever; temperature) 6. fu ne (boat)

	る

	つ

ふ	

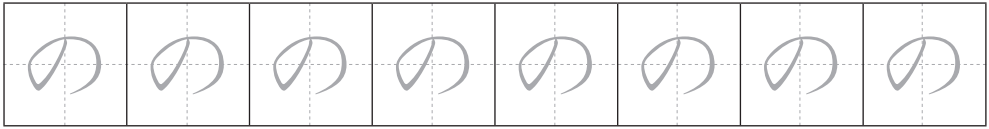


“no” as in no



Writing Tip “no” has one stroke: a circling brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

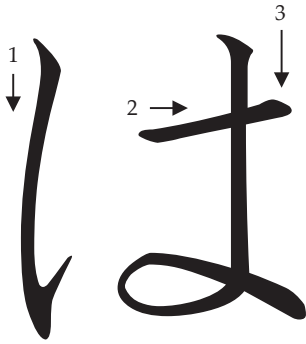
1. **no ri** (glue)

2. **no do** (throat)

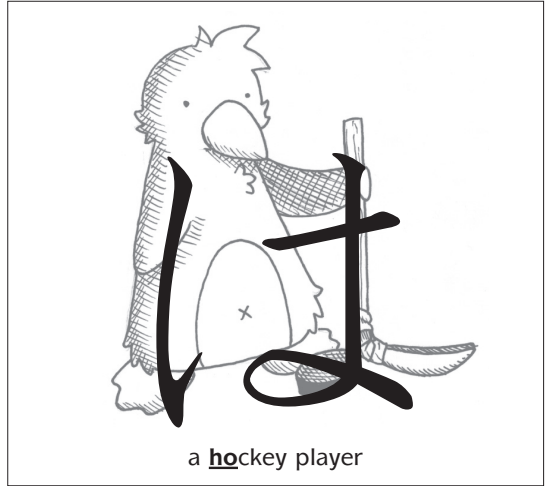
3. **mo no** (thing; object)

4. **no mi mo no** (beverage; drink)

5. **ki nō** (yesterday)

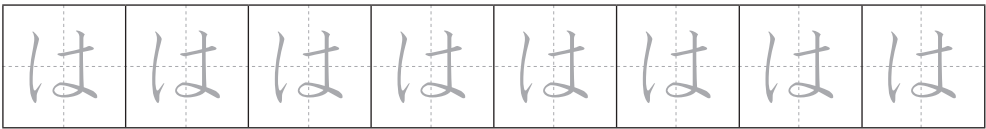


“ha” as in hall



Writing Tip “ha” has three strokes: 1) a jump, 2) stop and 3) looping stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. ha ru (spring)

	る

2. ha i (Yes!)

	い

3. ha ko (box)

	こ

4. ha sa mi (scissors)

	さ	み

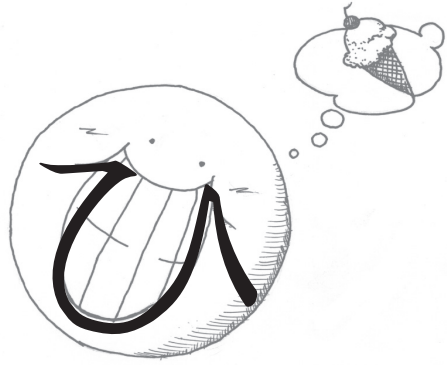
5. ha (tooth; teeth)

6. ha re (fine weather)

	れ



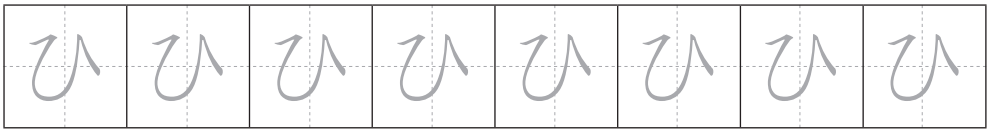
“hi” as in he.



He has a big smile on his face.

Writing Tip “hi” has one stroke: a sweeping stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **hi to** (person)



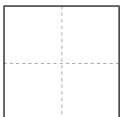
2. **hi za** (knee; lap)



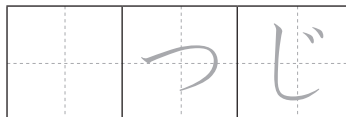
3. **hi ji** (elbow)

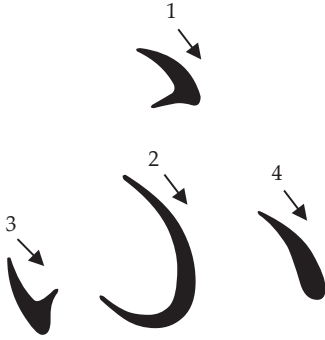


4. **hi** (fire; flame)

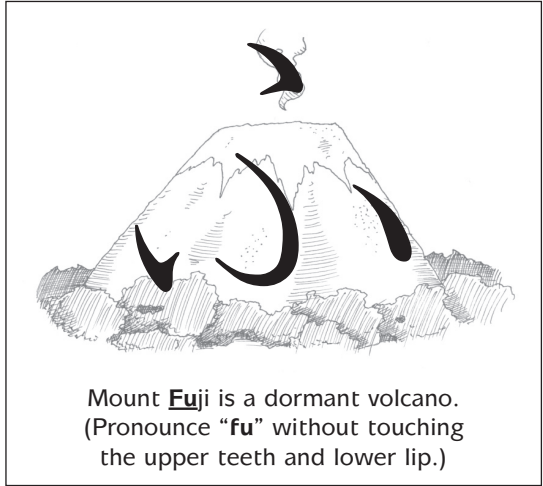


6. **hi tsu ji** (sheep)



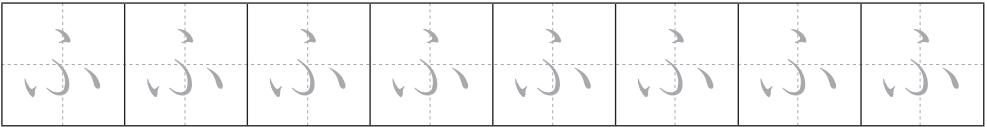


“fu” as in who
(except the lips are less rounded and
more air escapes from the mouth)



Writing Tip “fu” has four strokes: 1) a jump, 2) brush, 3) jump and 4) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **fu ji** (Mount Fuji)

		じ

2. **fu yu** (winter)

		ゆ

3. **tō fu** (tofu)

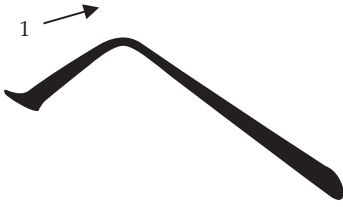
と	う	

4. **fu to n** (futon mattress)

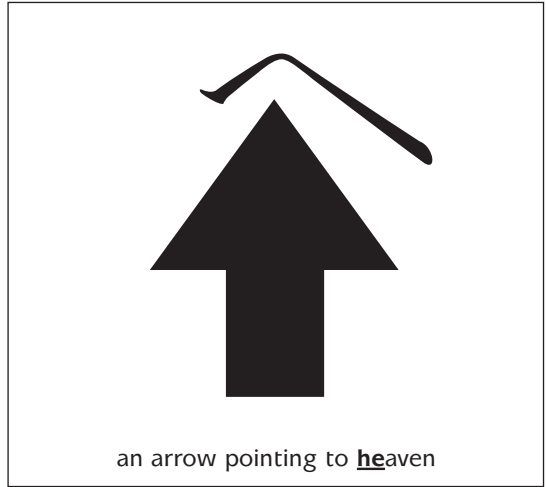
	と	ん

5. **o fu ro** (bathtub)

お		ろ

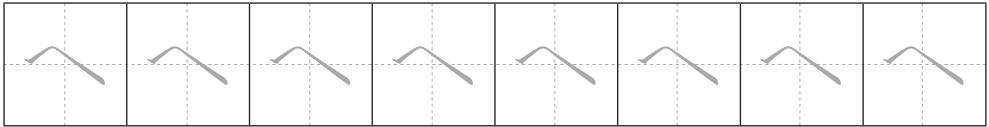


“he” as in heaven



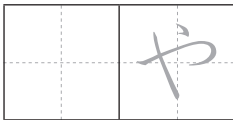
Writing Tip “he” has one stroke: a stop.

Trace these characters.

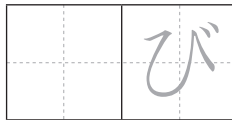


Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **he ya** (room; bedroom)



2. **he bi** (snake)



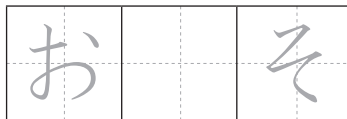
3. **he n** (odd; strange)

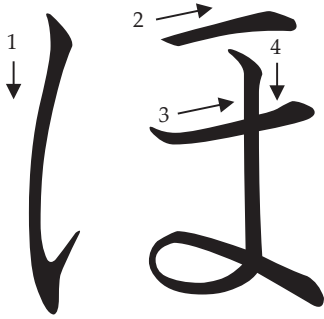


4. **he ta** (unskillful)



5. **o he so** (navel; belly button)





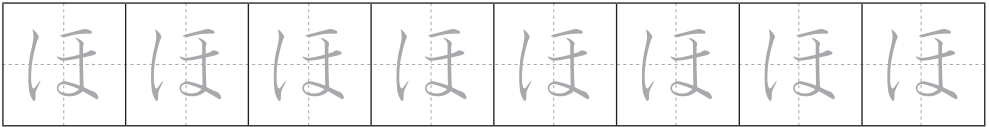
“ho” as in hold



Holding the hockey stick with two hands,
he is ready to play!

Writing Tip “ho” has four strokes: 1) a jump, 2) stop, 3) stop and 4) looping stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **ho n** (books)

		ん

2. **ho shi** (stars)

		し

3. **ho ne** (bones)

		ね

4. **e ho n** (picture books)

え		ん

5. **ho so i** (thin; slender)

	そ	い

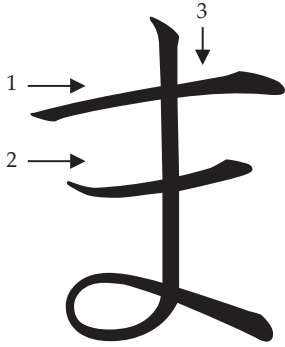
READING PRACTICE 2: た～ほ

You should now be able to read the words below. Fold the page lengthwise (or cover it with your hand) so you can only see the hiragana words on the left hand side of the page. Try reading them aloud and then check with the words on the right. Keep practicing until you can read them all. For an extra challenge try reading the Japanese and saying the English word before checking.

い た い		i ta i (Ouch!)
た の し い		ta no shi i (fun)
し た		shi ta (under; below; tongue)
い ち		i chi (one)
う ち		u chi (home; house)
あ つ い		a tsu i (hot)
く つ		ku tsu (shoes)
ち か て つ		chi ka te tsu (subway; underground train)
ひ と		hi to (person)
そ と		so to (outside)
な つ		na tsu (summer)
く に		ku ni (country; nation)
に く		ni ku (meat)
い ぬ		i nu (dog)
し ぬ		shi nu (to die)
ね こ		ne ko (cat)
お か ね		o ka ne (money)
は い		ha i (Yes!)
は こ		ha ko (box)
ひ き に く		hi ki ni ku (ground meat; minced meat)
ひ		hi (fire; flame)
ふ え		fu e (flute)
ふ ゆ		fu yu (winter)
お へ そ		o he so (navel; belly button)
へ た		he ta (unskillful)
ほ そ い		ho so i (thin; slender)
ほ し		ho shi (stars)

Romaji pronunciation guide:

a	as in father
i	as in easy
u	as in you
e	as in red
o	as in oak



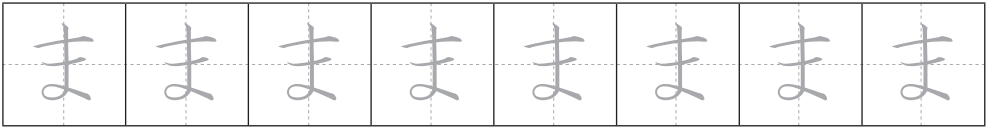
“ma” as in map



He will map the floor.

Writing Tip “ma” has three strokes: 1) a stop, 2) stop and 3) a looping stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **ma zu i** (unpleasant – taste or situation)

	ず	い

2. **a ma i** (sweet; indulgent)

あ		い

3. **se ma i** (narrow; confining)

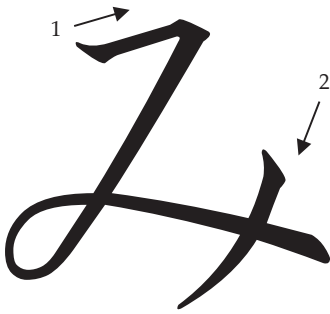
せ		い

4. **i ma** (living room)

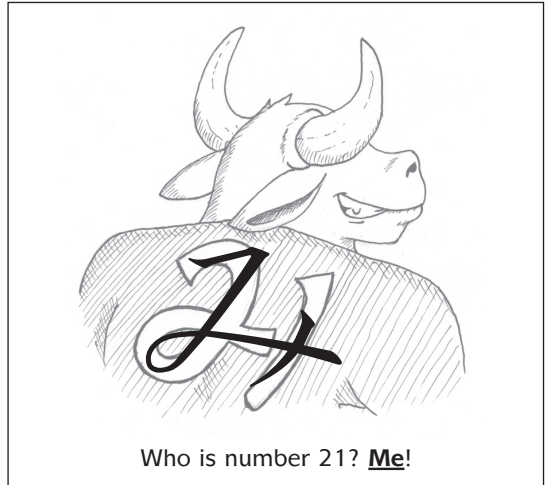
い	

5. **ma do** (window)

	ど

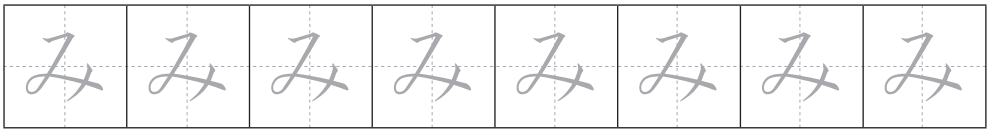


“mi” as in me



Writing Tip “mi” has two strokes: 1) a looping stop and 2) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **mi mi** (ears)

2. **mi gi** (right hand side)

	ぎ

3. **mi zu** (water)

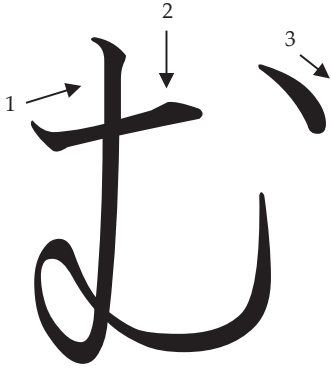
	ず

4. **ya su mi** (vacation; holiday)

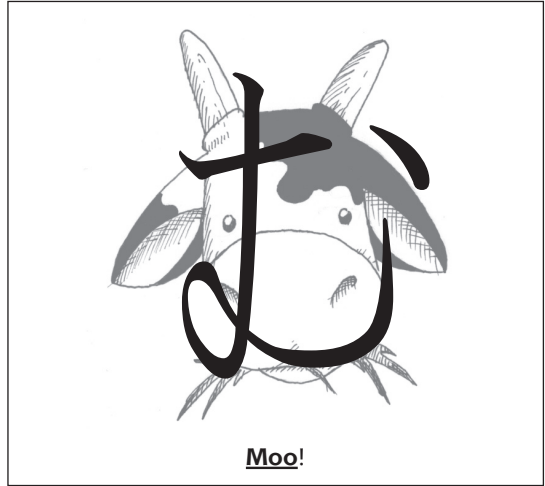
や	す	

5. **sa shi mi** (sliced raw fish)

さ	し	

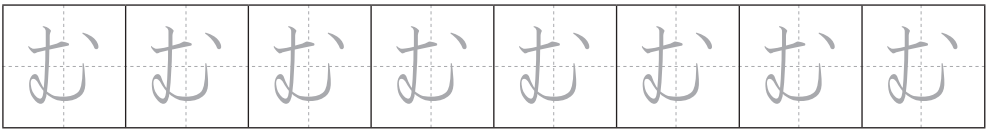


"mu" as in moo



Writing Tip "mu" has three strokes: 1) a stop, 2) looping brush and 3) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **mu ra sa ki** (purple)

	ら	さ	き

2. **sa mu ra i** (samurai warrior)

さ		ら	い

3. **ya su mu** (to rest; take a day off)

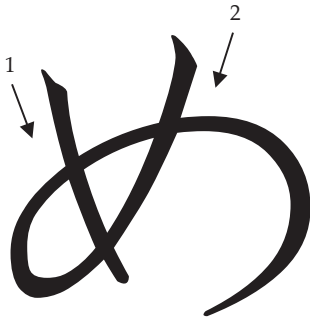
や	す		

4. **no mu** (to drink)

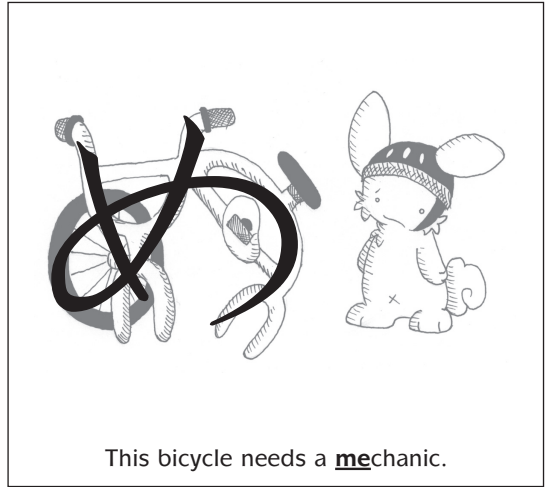
の			

5. **su mu** (to live)

す			



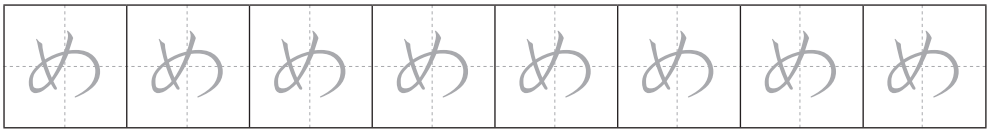
“me” as in Mexico



This bicycle needs a mechanic.

Writing Tip “me” has two strokes: 1) a stop and 2) looping brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **me** (eyes)

2. **tsu me ta i** (cold to the touch)

つ			た	い

3. **ka me** (turtle)

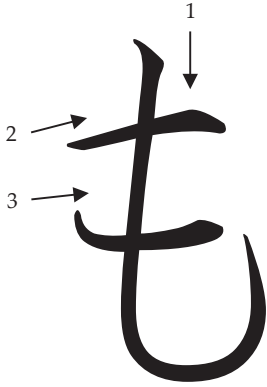
か		

4. **tsu me** (fingernail)

つ		

5. **go me n na sa i** (I'm sorry.)

ご			ん	な	さ	い

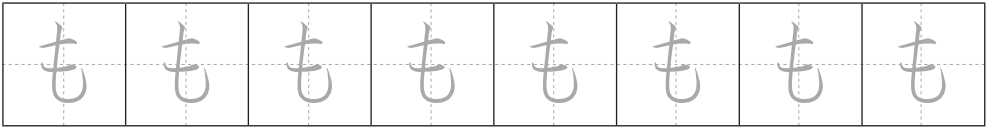


“mo” as in more



Writing Tip “mo” has three strokes: 1) a brush, 2) stop and 3) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **mo mo** (peach)

2. **mo shi mo shi** (hello – on the phone)

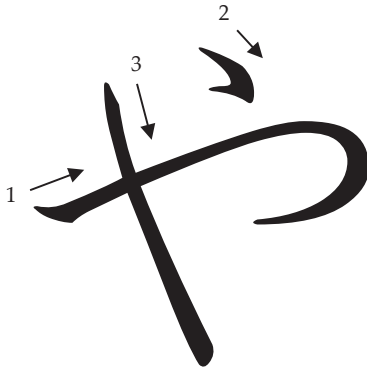
	し		し

3. **i tsu mo** (always)

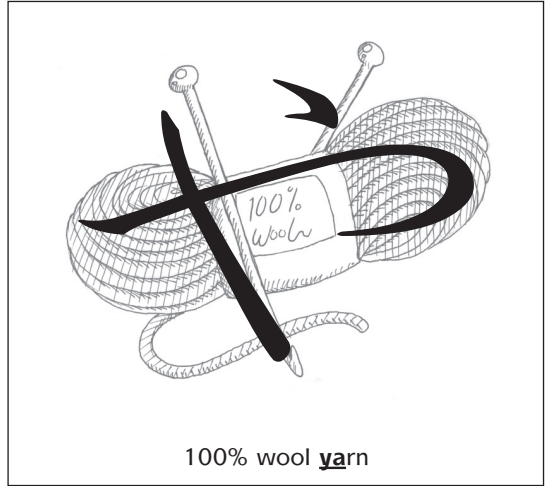
い	つ		

4. **to mo da chi** (friends)

と		だ	ち



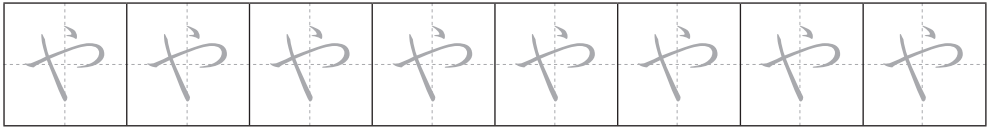
“ya” as in yarn



100% wool yarn

Writing Tip “ya” has three strokes: 1) a brush, 2) jump and 3) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. ya sa i (vegetables)

		さ	い

2. ya su i (inexpensive)

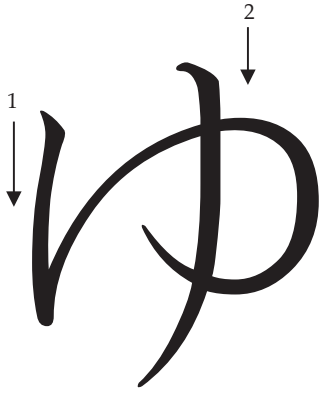
		す	い

3. ya o ya (vegetable stand)

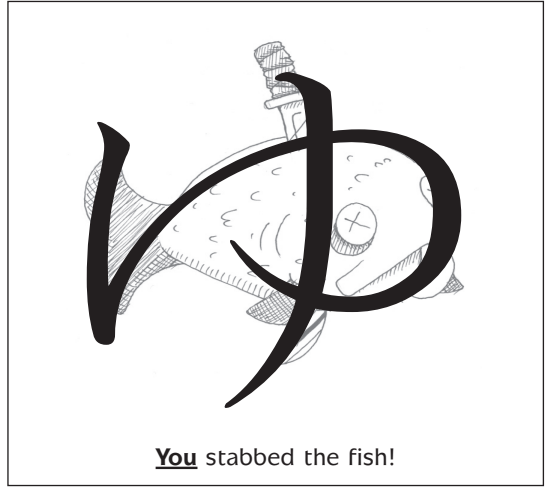
		お	

4. ha ya i (fast; early)

は			い



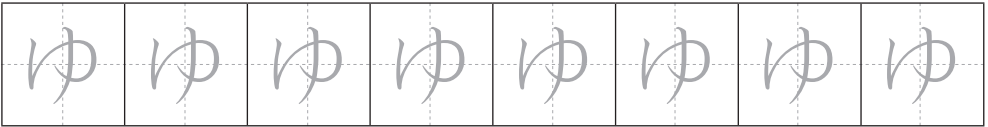
“yu” as in you



You stabbed the fish!

Writing Tip “yu” has two strokes and they are both brushes.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **yu bi** (finger)

		び

2. **yu ka** (floor)

		か

3. **yu me** (dream)

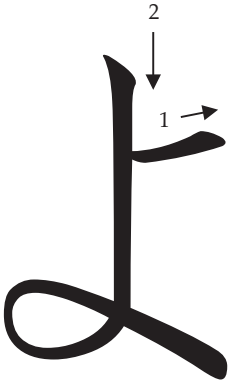
		め

4. **yū bi n** (mail; postal service)

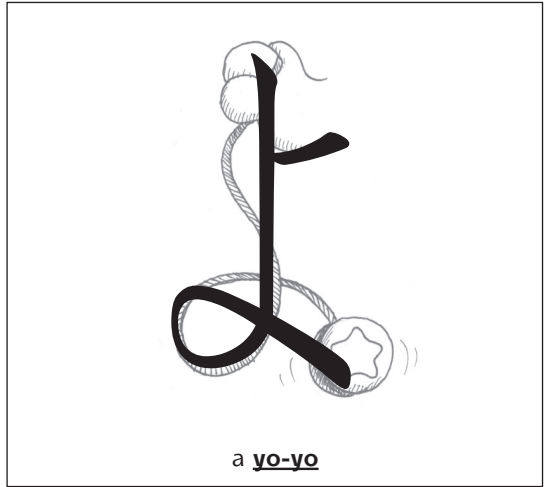
		う	び	ん

5. **yo yū** (spare – time, money, etc)

よ			う

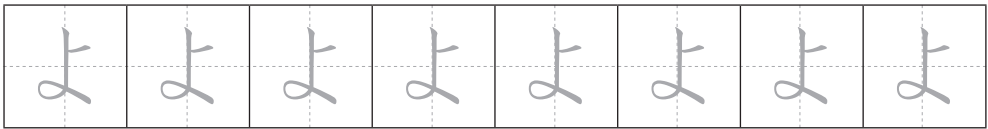


“yo” as in yo-yo



Writing Tip “yo” has two strokes and both of them are stops.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

[illegible]

1. **yo ru** (evening; night)

	る
--	---

2. sa yō na ra (goodbye)

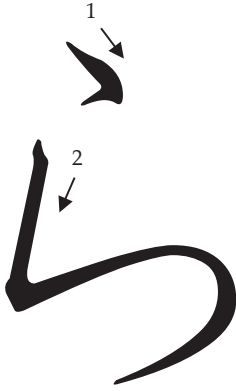
さ			う	な	ら
---	--	--	---	---	---

3. **yo wa i** (weak)

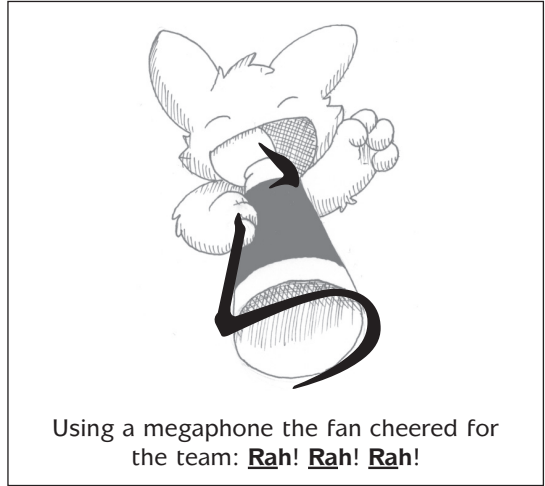
		わ	い
--	--	---	---

4. **tsu yo i** (strong)

つ				い
---	--	--	--	---



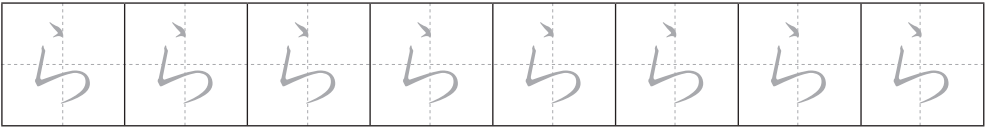
“ra” as in Rah! Rah! Rah!



Using a megaphone the fan cheered for the team: Rah! Rah! Rah!

Writing Tip “ra” has two strokes: 1) a jump and 2) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. o te a ra i (restroom)

お	て	あ			い
---	---	---	--	--	---

2. i ku ra (how much?)

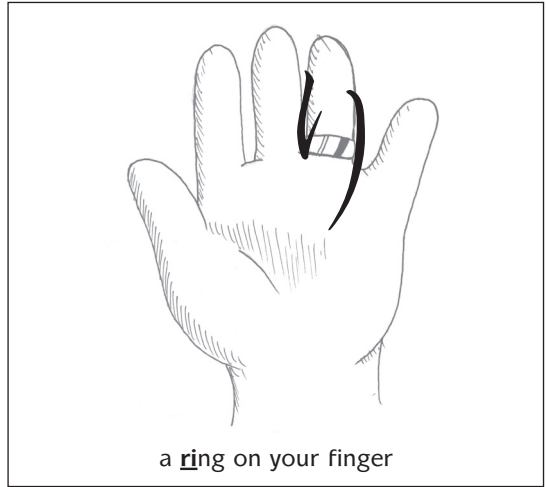
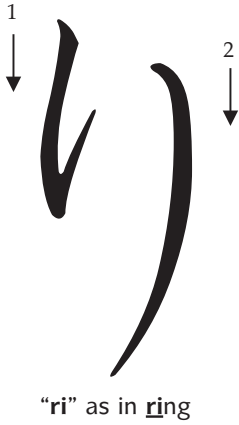
い	く		
---	---	--	--

3. ka ra i (spicy; hot)

か			い
---	--	--	---

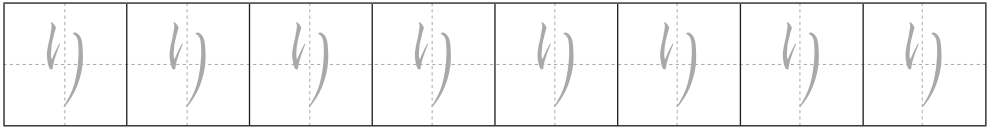
4. ki ra i (dislike – adjective)

き			い
---	--	--	---



Writing Tip “ri” has two strokes: 1) a jump and 2) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. i ri gu chi (entrance)

い		ぐ	ち
---	--	---	---

2. ku su ri (medicine)

く	す	
---	---	--

3. o tsu ri (change – money)

お	つ	
---	---	--

4. ku mo ri (cloudy)

く	も	
---	---	--



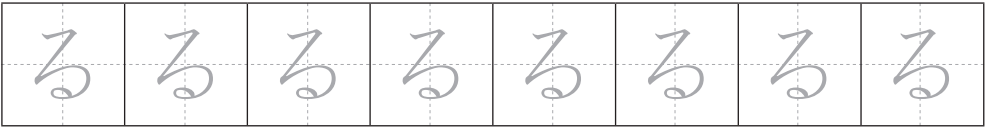
“ru” as in ruby



three (3) rubies

Writing Tip “ru” has one stroke: a zigzag-looping stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **fu ru i** (old - not person)

ふ			い	
---	--	--	---	--

2. **a ru ku** (to walk)

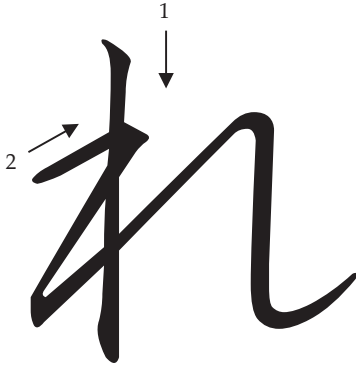
あ			く	
---	--	--	---	--

3. **ka e ru** (frog; to return home)

か	え			
---	---	--	--	--

4. **zu ru i** (unfair; cunning)

ず			い	
---	--	--	---	--



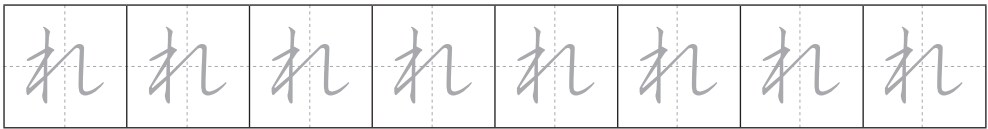
"re" as in radio



The radio tower was struck by lightning.

Writing Tip "re" has two strokes: 1) a stop and 2) zigzag brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **da re** (who)

だ		
---	--	--

2. **ki re i** (pretty; clean; tidy)

き		い
---	--	---

3. **a re** (that over there)

あ		
---	--	--

4. **u re shi i** (happy; glad)

う		し	い
---	--	---	---

5. **i re ru** (to insert; to put in)

い		る
---	--	---

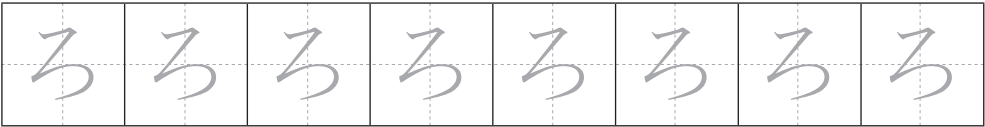
“ro” as in roll



The three (3) rubies rolled away!

Writing Tip “ro” has one stroke: a zigzag brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **te bu ku ro** (gloves)

て	ぶ	く		
---	---	---	--	--

2. **u shi ro** (behind)

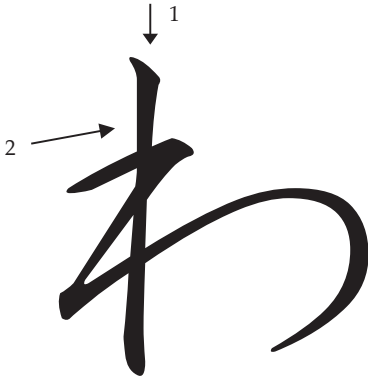
う	し		
---	---	--	--

3. **hi ro i** (wide; spacious)

ひ			い	
---	--	--	---	--

4. **da i do ko ro** (kitchen)

だ	い	ど	こ	
---	---	---	---	--

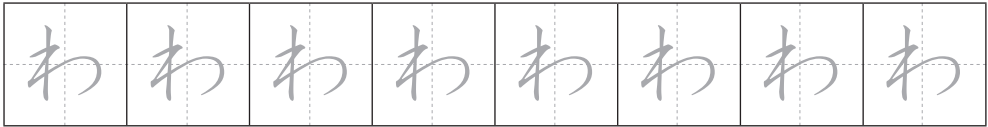


“wa” as in water



Writing Tip “wa” has two strokes: 1) a stop and 2) zigzag brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. wa ta shi (I; myself)

		た	し

2. de n wa (telephone)

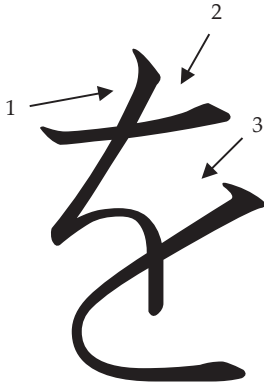
で	ん	

3. wa ru i (bad)

	る	い

4. su wa ru (to sit)

す		る



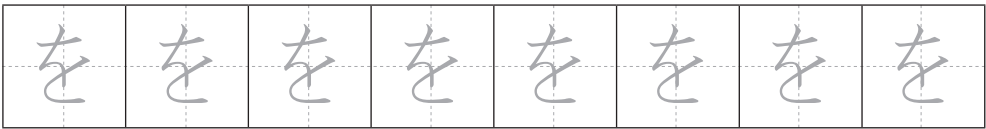
“o” as in old
(same pronunciation as お)



“Whoo!” calls the cowboy to his horse.
(the “w” is dropped in modern Japanese)

Writing Tip “o” has three strokes and they are all stops.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

This character is not used to write words; it is a grammatical object marker (see Section Two).
Trace the light gray characters and write the character “o” by yourself.

1. **watashi wa sono hon o yomimasu** (I will read that book.)

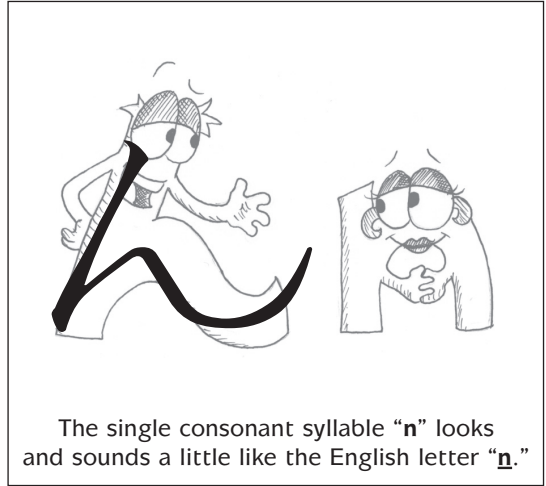
わたしはそのほん よみます。

2. **dare ga momo o tabemashita ka** (Who ate the peach?)

だれがもも たべましたか。



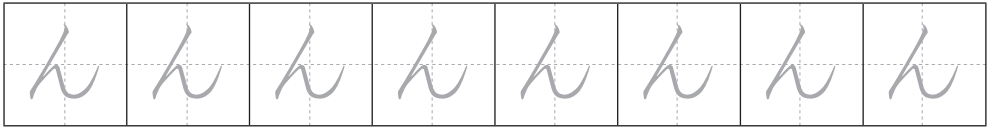
“n” as in ink
(pronounced by touching the back of
the tongue to the roof of the mouth)



The single consonant syllable “n” looks
and sounds a little like the English letter “n.”

Writing Tip “n” has one stroke: a brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **su mi ma se n** (Excuse me.)

す	み	ま	せ		
---	---	---	---	--	--

2. **e n** (Yen – money)

え		
---	--	--

3. **ta n su** (chest of drawers)

た			す
---	--	--	---

4. **shi n shi tsu** (bedroom)

し			し	つ
---	--	--	---	---

READING PRACTICE 3: ま～ん

You should now be able to read the words below. Fold the page lengthwise (or cover it with your hand) so you can only see the hiragana words on the left hand side of the page. Try reading them aloud and then check with the words on the right. Keep practicing until you can read them all. For an extra challenge try reading the Japanese and saying the English word before checking.

あ	ま	い			a ma i (sweet; indulgent)
い	ま				i ma (living room)
や	す	み			ya su mi (vacation; holiday)
み	み				mi mi (ears)
む	ら	さ	き		mu ra sa ki (purple)
さ	む	ら	い		sa mu ra i (samurai warrior)
め					me (eyes)
か	め				ka me (turtle)
も	し	も	し		mo shi mo shi (hello – on the phone)
も	も				mo mo (peach)
や	す	い			ya su i (inexpensive)
や	お	や			ya o ya (vegetable stand)
ゆ	か				yu ka (floor)
ゆ	め				yu me (dream)
さ	よ	う	な	ら	sa yō na ra (goodbye)
よ	る				yo ru (evening; night)
い	く	ら			i ku ra (how much)
か	ら	い			ka ra i (spicy; hot)
お	つ	り			o tsu ri (change – money)
く	す	り			ku su ri (medicine)
ふ	る	い			fu ru i (old – not person)
か	え	る			ka e ru (frog; to return home)
き	れ	い			ki re i (pretty; clean; tidy)
う	れ	し	い		u re shi i (happy; glad)
ひ	ろ	い			hi ro i (wide; spacious)
う	し	ろ			u shi ro (behind)
わ	た	し			wa ta shi (I; myself)
か	わ	い	い		ka wa i i (cute)
え	ん				e n (yen – Japanese money)

Romaji pronunciation guide:

a	as in father
i	as in easy
u	as in you
e	as in red
o	as in oak

SECTION TWO

Hiragana Usage Rules



THE ADDITIONAL 58 HIRAGANA SOUNDS

ga が	gi ぎ	gu ぐ	ge げ	go ご
za ざ	ji じ	zu ず	ze ぜ	zo ぞ
da だ	ji* ぢ	zu* づ	de で	do ど
ba ば	bi び	bu ぶ	be べ	bo ぼ
pa ぱ	pi ぴ	pu ぷ	pe ぺ	po ぽ

* “ji” and “zu” are usually written with じ and ず.

kya きゃ	kyu きゅ	kyo きょ
sha しゃ	shu しゅ	sho しょ
cha ちゃ	chu ちゅ	cho ちょ
nya にゃ	nyu にゅ	nyo にょ
hya ひゃ	hyu ひゅ	hyo ひょ

gya ぎゃ	gyu ぎゅ	gyo ぎょ
ja じゃ	ju じゅ	jo じょ
ja* ぢゃ	ju* ぢゅ	jo* ぢょ

* “ja,” “ju” and “jo” are usually written with じゃ, じゅ and じょ.

mya みゃ	myu みゅ	myo みょ
rya りゃ	ryu りゅ	ryo りょ

bya びゃ	byu びゅ	byo びょ
pya ぴゃ	pyu ぴゅ	pyo ぴょ

Japanese learners are lucky that there are so few hiragana rules. Mastering all the rules (and exceptions) in English takes years of spelling tests. In Japanese, however, once you have learned the five basic rules of hiragana you will be able to write 58 additional sounds using the 46 hiragana characters already introduced, and write any word you like.

RULE 1 TENTEN (〃) AND MARU (〇)

The first rule describes the way the pronunciation changes when two small dashes (`) called **tenten** or a small circle (°) called **maru** is added to a hiragana character. Tenten may be added to 20 hiragana characters, giving them a voiced consonant sound. For example, adding tenten to any of the か, き, く, け, こ row characters changes the “k” (as in **coat**) to “g” (as in **goat**). You will notice a vibration in your throat when you pronounce “g,” but not “k.” All 20 hiragana characters become voiced sounds when you add tenten.

[illegible]

You may have noticed that there are two ways to write the sounds “**ji**” and “**zu**.” In most cases “**ji**” and “**zu**” are written **じ** and **ず**.

Maru (◯) are only added to the hiragana characters *pa*, *pi*, *pu*, *pe*, *po*. They become *pa*, *pi*, *pu*, *pe*, *po* and they are pronounced “pa,” “pi,” “pu,” “pe,” “po.”

h^o → p as in “pig”

Writing Practice: Say the sounds aloud as you write these hiragana characters with tenten and maru. Trace the light gray characters and then complete the row by yourself.

が	が	が							
ぎ	ぎ	ぎ							
ぐ	ぐ	ぐ							
げ	げ	げ							

こ	こ	こ						
こ	こ	こ						

Now try writing the following words that use the first group of characters written with tenten. Trace the light gray characters, and then write the appropriate character in the blank box.

1. **hi ra ga na** (hiragana)

ひ	ら		な
---	---	--	---

2. **ma n ga** (comics)

ま	ん	
---	---	--

3. **o ni gi ri** (rice ball)

お	に		り
---	---	--	---

4. **mi gi** (right hand side)

み	
---	--

5. **i ri gu chi** (entrance)

い	り		ち
---	---	--	---

6. **o yo gu** (to swim)

お	よ	
---	---	--

7. **ge n ka n** (entryway of a Japanese home)

	ん	か	ん
--	---	---	---

8. **ge n ki** (fine, healthy)

	ん	き
--	---	---

9. **ni ho n go** (Japanese language)

に	ほ	ん	
---	---	---	--

10. **go ha n** (rice; food)

	は	ん
--	---	---

11. **me ga ne** (glasses)

め		ね
---	--	---

12. **u sa gi** (rabbit)

う	さ	
---	---	--

13. **hi ge** (mustache, beard) 14. **de gu chi** (exit)

ひ

で ち

The second group of characters written with *tenten* has one exception: *じ* is pronounced “ji.”

ざ za	ざ	ざ							
じ ji	じ	じ							
ず zu	ず	ず							
ぜ ze	ぜ	ぜ							
ぞ zo	ぞ	ぞ							

Try writing these words that use the second group of *tenten* characters.

1. **za n ne n** (unfortunate; too bad)

ん ね ん

2. **hi za** (knee; lap)

ひ

3. **ji ka n** (time)

かん

4. **hi tsu ji** (sheep)

ひ つ

5. **chi zu** (map)

ち

6. **su zu shi i** (cool – temperature)

す し い

7. **ka ze** (cold – illness; wind)

か	
---	--

8. **ze n ze n** (not...at all; never)

	ん		ん
--	---	--	---

9. **zō** (elephant)

	う
--	---

10. **ka zo ku** (family)

か		く
---	--	---

The third group of characters written with *tenten* has two exceptions: “**ji**” and “**zu**.” As mentioned, there are two ways to write the sounds “**ji**” and “**zu**,” but in most cases they are written with *じ* and *ず*. However, *ぢ* and *づ* are used in occasional compound words such as “bloody nose” (**ha na ji**) はなぢ and “hammer” (**ka na zu chi**) かなづち.

だ da	だ	だ					
ぢ ji	ぢ	ぢ					
づ zu	づ	づ					
で de	で	で					
ど do	ど	ど					

Trace the light gray characters and then complete the word with the correct *tenten* character.

1. **to mo da chi** (friend)

と	も		ち
---	---	--	---

2. **da re** (who)

	れ
--	---

3. **de n wa** (telephone)

んわ

4. **de n ki** (light; electricity)

んき

5. **da i do ko ro** (kitchen)

いころ

6. **ma do** (window)

ま

The fourth group of characters written with tenten has no exceptions.

ば ba	ば	ば						
び bi	び	び						
ぶ bu	ぶ	ぶ						
べ be	べ	べ						
ぼ bo	ぼ	ぼ						

Try writing these words that use the fourth group of tenten characters.

1. **so ba** (buckwheat noodles)

そ

2. **i ke ba na** (Japanese flower arranging)

いけな

3. **ku bi** (neck)

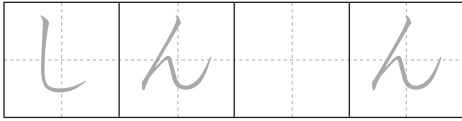
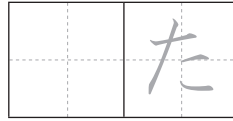
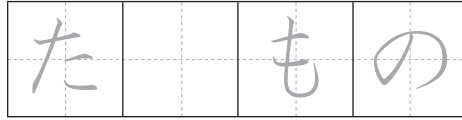
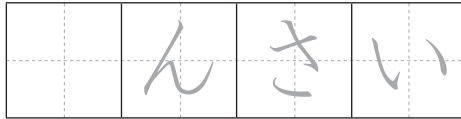
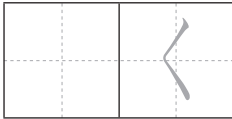
く

4. **he bi** (snake)

へ

5. **yu bi** (finger)

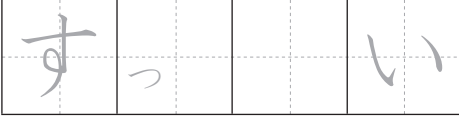
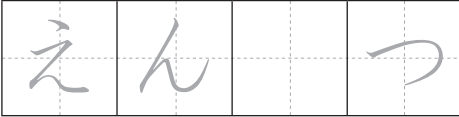
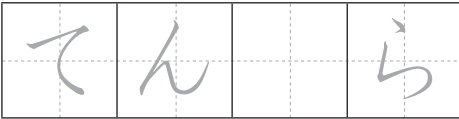
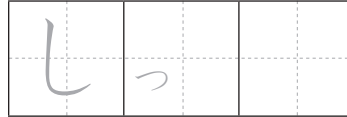
ゆ

6. **shi n bu n** (newspaper)7. **bu ta** (pig)8. **su be te** (everything)9. **ta be mo no** (food)10. **bo ku** (I; me – used by boys) 11. **bo n sa i** (bonsai tree)

The small circle or maru (°) is only added to “**ha**,” “**hi**,” “**fu**,” “**he**” and “**ho**.” Trace the light gray characters, and then try writing them in the blank boxes on your own.

は [°] pa	は [°]	は [°]					
ひ [°] pi	ひ [°]	ひ [°]					
ふ [°] pu	ふ [°]	ふ [°]					
へ [°] pe	へ [°]	へ [°]					
ほ [°] po	ほ [°]	ほ [°]					

Try writing these words using characters written with maru (°). Many of these words also use a small “tsu” (っ), which is pronounced as a short silent pause. In romaji a small “tsu” (っ) is usually indicated by doubling the following consonant (see Rule 3).

1. **su ppa i** (sour)2. **ra ppa** (trumpet)3. **e n pi tsu** (pencil)4. **ha ppi** (festival coat)5. **te n pu ra** (battered, deep-fried food)6. **ki ppu** (ticket)7. **pe ra pe ra** (fluent; fluently)8. **shi ppo** (tail of an animal)9. **pe ko pe ko** (very hungry)10. **po ka po ka** (warm feeling)11. **ri ppa** (splendid; fine)12. **ha ppa** (leaf)

READING PRACTICE 4: TENTEN AND MARU

You should be able to read the words below now. Fold the page lengthwise (or cover it with your hand) so you can only see the hiragana words on the left half of the page. Try reading them aloud and then check your reading with the romaji on the right half of the page. Keep practicing until you can read them all.

ひ ら が な	hi ra ga na (hiragana characters)
み ぎ	mi gi (right hand side)
い り ぐ ち	i ri gu chi (entrance)
げ ん か ん	ge n ka n (entryway of a Japanese home)
に ほ ん ご	ni ho n go (Japanese)
ひ ざ	hi za (knee; lap)
じ か ん	ji ka n (time)
ち ず	chi zu (map)
か ぜ	ka ze (cold – illness; wind)
か ぞ く	ka zo ku (family)
だ れ	da re (who)
で ん わ	de n wa (telephone)
ま ど	ma do (window)
い け ば な	i ke ba na (flower arranging)
へ び	he bi (snake)
し ん ぶ ん	shi n bu n (newspaper)
す べ て	su be te (all; everything)
ぼ ん さ い	bo n sa i (bonsai tree)
ら っ ぱ	ra ppa (trumpet)
え ん ぴ つ	e n pi tsu (pencil)
き っ ぷ	ki ppu (ticket)
ぺ ら ぺ ら	pe ra pe ra (fluent; fluently)
し っ ぽ	shi ppo (tail of an animal)

RULE 2 COMBINED CHARACTERS

As mentioned in the Introduction there are three special hiragana characters that are used extensively in combination with 11 consonants to form 33 additional sounds (see the chart at the beginning of Section Two). When combined in this way “ya,” “yu” and “yo” are written in half-size characters at the bottom left corner, as in the examples below. Many of the example words have a line above the vowel, indicating it is two syllables in length. More information about Japanese long vowels will be explained later (see Rule 4). Trace the light gray characters and then try to complete the example words with the correct combined characters.

kya

き	や
---	---

kyu

き	ゆ
---	---

kyo

き	よ
---	---

1. kya ku (guest; customer)

		く
--	--	---

2. ya kyū (baseball)

や			う
---	--	--	---

3. kyō (today)

		う
--	--	---

4. kyū ri (cucumber)

		う	り
--	--	---	---

gya

ぎ	や
---	---

gyu

ぎ	ゆ
---	---

gyo

ぎ	よ
---	---

1. gya ku (reverse; opposite)

		く
--	--	---

2. ki n gyo (goldfish)

き	ん		
---	---	--	--

3. gyū ni ku (beef)

		う	に	く
--	--	---	---	---

sha

し	や
---	---

shu

し	ゆ
---	---

sho

し	よ
---	---

1. **i sha** (medical doctor)

い

2. **shu fu** (homemaker)

ふ

3. **sho ku dō** (dining room; cafeteria)

くど

4. **ba sho** (place; location)

ば

ja

じゃ

ju

じゅ

jo

じょ

1. **jā ne** (See you later!)

あね

2. **jū** (ten)

う

3. **ma jo** (witch)

ま

4. **jū sho** (address)

うしよ

5. **ja ma** (nuisance)

ま

6. **jū dō** (judo)

うど

cha

ちゃ

chu

ちゅ

cho

ちょ

1. o mo cha (toys)

お	も		
---	---	--	--

2. cho tto (a little; somewhat)

		っ	と
--	--	---	---

3. chū go ku (China)

		う	ご	く
--	--	---	---	---

4. o cha (green tea)

お		
---	--	--

ja

ぢ	ゃ
---	---

ju

ぢ	ゅ
---	---

jo

ぢ	ょ
---	---

The above combined characters are rarely used, and they are usually used for emphasis only.

nya

に	ゃ
---	---

nyu

に	ゅ
---	---

nyo

に	ょ
---	---

1. gyū nyū (milk)

ぎ	ゅ	う				う
---	---	---	--	--	--	---

2. nyā (meow – cry of a cat)

		あ
--	--	---

3. ka nyū (to subscribe)

か				う
---	--	--	--	---

4. nyo ro nyo ro (slithering(ly))

		ろ			ろ
--	--	---	--	--	---

hya

ひゃ

hyu

ひゅ

hyo

ひょ

1. **hya ku** (one hundred)

ひゃく

2. **hyō** (chart; leopard)

ひょう

3. **hyū hyū** (sound of howling wind)

ひゅうひゅう

4. **mo ku hyō** (goal)

もくひょう

bya

びゃ

byu

びゅ

byo

びょ

1. **byō ki** (sick; illness)

びょうき

2. **byū n** (whizzing sound of fast object)

びゅうん

3. **sa n bya ku** (three hundred)

さんびゃく

pya

ひ	ゃ		
---	---	--	--

pyu

ひ	ゅ		
---	---	--	--

pyo

ひ	ょ		
---	---	--	--

1. ha ppya ku (eight hundred)

は	っ				く
---	---	--	--	--	---

2. pyū (sound of powerful wind)

			う
--	--	--	---

3. ha ppyō (announcement; presentation)

は	っ				う
---	---	--	--	--	---

4. ha ppyō ka i (recital)

は	っ			う	か	い
---	---	--	--	---	---	---

mya

み	ゃ		
---	---	--	--

myu*

み	ゅ		
---	---	--	--

myo

み	ょ		
---	---	--	--

1. sa n mya ku (mountain range)

さ	ん				く
---	---	--	--	--	---

2. ho n myō (real name)

ほ	ん				う
---	---	--	--	--	---

3. myō (strange; unusual)

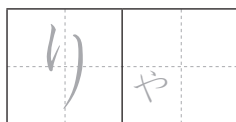
			う
--	--	--	---

*The character combination “myu” is only used in uncommon words not included here.

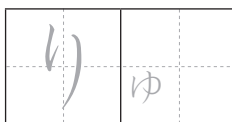
5. **mya ku** (pulse)



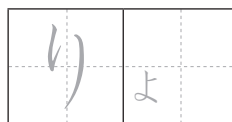
rya



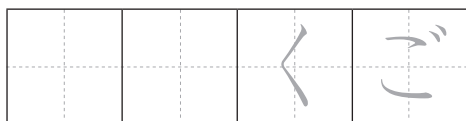
ryu



ryo



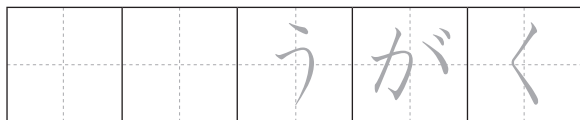
1. rya ku go (abbreviation)



2. **ryo kō** (travel)



3. ryū ga ku (study abroad)



4. **ryō** (dormitory)



READING PRACTICE 5: COMBINED CHARACTERS

You should be able to read these words with combined characters now. Fold the page length-wise (or cover it with your hand) so you can only see the words on the left hand side of the page. Try reading them aloud and then check the words on the right. Keep practicing until you can read them all.

ききききききいししまじじお
やゆよんゆやしゆよじやゆも
くううぎうくやふくよんうち
りとよに ど けしや
く う ん ぽ ん

kya ku (guest; customer)
kyū ri (cucumber)
kyō to (Kyoto)
ki n gyo (goldfish)
gyū ni ku (beef)
gya ku (opposite; backwards)
i sha (doctor)
shu fu (homemaker)
sho ku dō (dining room; cafeteria)
ma jo (witch)
jan ken pon (rock; paper; scissors)
jū sho (address)
o mo cha (toys)

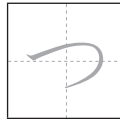
ち	ゆ	う	ご	く
ち	よ	う		
ぎ	ゆ	う	に	ゆ う
ひ	や	く		
ひ	よ	う		
び	よ	う	き	
さ	ん	び	や	く
み	よ	う		
り	よ	う		
り	ゆ	う	が	く

chū go ku (China)
 chō (butterfly)
 gyū nyū (cows' milk)
 hya ku (hundred)
 hyō (chart; leopard)
 byō ki (sick; sickness)
 sa n bya ku (three hundred)
 myō (strange; unusual)
 ryō (dormitory)
 ryū ga ku (study abroad)

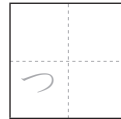
RULE 3 SMALL "TSU" (っ)

A small "tsu" (っ) is pronounced as a short silent pause. In romaji it is usually indicated by a doubling of the following consonant. One exception is the consonant "ch," in which case it is indicated by adding a "t" as in "dotchi" どっち or "which one; which way." A small "tsu" may also be used at the end of a phrase or sentence to indicate a sense of abruptness, anger, or surprise. It is pronounced with a "glottal stop" or in other words, stopping the flow of air by closing the back of the throat (epiglottis). Small "tsu" is written in the bottom left hand corner, as are small "ya," "yu," and "yo." Complete the example words by tracing the light gray characters and writing a small "tsu" in the appropriate area of the blank boxes.

Example of
regular-sized "tsu"



Example of
small "tsu"



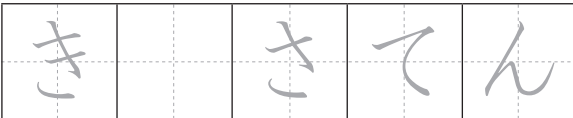
1. ga kkō (school)



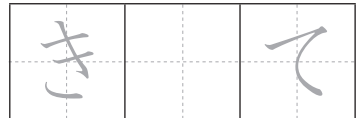
2. a sa tte (day after tomorrow)



3. ki ssa te n (coffee shop)



4. ki tte (stamp)



5. ki ppu (ticket)



6. ma ssu gu (straight)



READING PRACTICE 6: SMALL “tsu”

You should be able to read the words below with small “tsu” now. Remember to pronounce it as a short silent pause. Check your pronunciation with the phonetic guide on the right. If you don’t understand, try reading Rule 3 again.

や っ た !
 た っ て く だ さ い
 み っ つ
 よ っ つ
 お っ つ
 や っ つ
 い っ さ い
 は っ さ い
 き っ て
 か っ た
 お も し ろ か っ た
 い ら っ し ゃ い ま せ
 ま っ す ぐ
 い っ て く だ さ い
 に っ ほ ん

ya tta! (Yeah!)
 ta tte ku da sa i (Please stand!)
 mi ttsu (three things)
 yo ttsu (four things)
 mu ttsu (six things)
 ya ttsu (eight things)
 i ssa i (one year old)
 ha ssa i (eight years old)
 ki tte (stamp)
 ka tta (I won.)
 o mo shi ro ka tta (That was fun.)
 i ra ssha i ma se (Welcome! – at stores)
 ma ssu gu (straight)
 i tte ku da sa i (Please say it.)
 ni ppo n (Japan – alternative name)

RULE 4 LONG VOWELS

As you have already seen many times, some words in romaji have a line above a vowel, indicating it is a long vowel, or a vowel two syllables in length. Writing most long vowels in hiragana is simple; you add one of the five Japanese vowels あ, い, う, え, お. As already noted, in romaji a long vowel is indicated by a line above the vowel, except “i,” which is written twice. Read the examples below.

Long “a”	お か あ さ ん	o k ^ā sa n	(mother)
Long “i”	い い え	i i e	(no)
Long “u”	き ゆ う り	kyū ri	(cucumber)
Long “e”*	お ね え さ ん	o nē sa n	(older sister)
Long “o”*	お お き い	ō ki i	(big)

* Actually, the last two examples are exceptions. Usually い (“i” as in **easy**) makes the long え (“e” as in **red**) sound. Take extra care to pronounce an い following a character with the え vowel sound as a long vowel え. At first this may be a bit confusing because in romaji it is usually written with an “I.” In this case the romaji reflects the hiragana writing, not the pronunciation.

え い ご	e i go (ē go)	(English)
せ ん せ い	se n se i (se n sē)	(teacher)
え い が	e i ga (ē ga)	(movie)
と け い	to ke i (to kē)	(clock)

Likewise, a long vowel お (“o” as in old) is made by adding う (“u” as in youth). This book consistently uses a line above the “o” to indicate the long vowel in romaji.

さ よ う な ら	sa yō na ra	(goodbye)
あ り が と う	a ri ga tō	(thank you)
も う い ち ど	mō i chi do	(one more time)

READING PRACTICE 7: LONG VOWELS

You should be able to read the words below with long vowels now. Cover the right hand side of the page so you can only see the hiragana words. Check your pronunciation with the phonetic guide on the right. If you don’t understand, try reading Rule 4 again.

お い し い	o i shi i (delicious)
お か あ さ ん	o kā sa n (mother)
と う き よ う	tō kyō (Tokyo; capital of Japan)
お お き い	ō ki i (big)
お き ゅ う	kyū (nine)
き い ろ	ki i ro (yellow)
き れ い	ki re i (pretty)
ひ こ う き	hi kō ki (airplane)
お に い さ ん	o ni i sa n (big brother)
お は よ う	o ha yō (good morning)
お ね え さ ん	o nē sa n (big sister)
ほ ん し ゅ う	ho n shū (Honshū – island of Japan)
お と う さ ん	o tō sa n (dad)
い い え	i i e (no)
き ょ う	kyō (today)
ち い さ い	chi i sa i (small)
お と う と	o tō to (little brother)
よ ね ん せ い	yo ne n se i (fourth grader; senior)

じ ゆ う
 と け い
 あ り が と う
 お ば あ さ ん
 ふ う せ ん
 じ ゃ あ ね
 が っ こ う
 お じ い さ ん

jū (ten)
 to ke i (clock)
 a ri ga tō (Thank you.)
 o bā sa n (grandmother)
 fū se n (balloon)
 jā ne (See you later!)
 ga kkō (school)
 o ji i sa n (grandfather)

RULE 5 SENTENCE PARTICLES “WA,” “E” AND “O”

Japanese uses small grammatical words called “particles” to help the reader understand the relationships between words in a sentence. They are usually one or two hiragana characters in length, and among other things, they indicate the topic, subject, object, location and direction. Particles are always placed directly after the words they mark. Rule 5 simply describes how three hiragana characters are pronounced differently when used as grammatical particles.



“wa” The Topic Particle:

When used as a “topic” particle, は is pronounced “wa” instead of “ha.”

Examples: Trace the light gray characters and then write the particle “wa” in the blank box. A period in Japanese is written with a small circle in the bottom left corner of its own box. After you have written each sentence, practice reading it and take care to pronounce the particles correctly.

A) I am a (college) student.

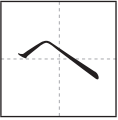
watashi	wa	gakusei	desu
(I, me)	(topic)	(student)	(am, are)

わたし がくせい です。

B) What is your telephone number?

o	denwa bangō	wa	nan	desu	ka
(honorific)	(phone number)	(topic)	(what)	(is, are)	(question particle)

おでんわばんごう なん ですか。



“e” The Direction Particle:

When used as a “direction” particle, へ is pronounced like え (“e” as in red).

Examples:

A) We are going to Peace Park (Hiroshima).

watashi-tachi **wa** **heiwa-kō en** **e** **ikimasu**
 (we) (topic) (Peace Park) (direction particle) (will go)

わたしたちは へいわこうえん いき
 ます。

B) Please turn right.

migi **e** **magatte** **kudasai**
 (right) (direction) (to turn) (please)

みぎ まがって ください。



“o” The Object Particle:

The character を is only used as a particle to mark the “object” of a sentence and it is pronounced like お (“o” as in old).

Examples:

A) I saw Mount Fuji.

watashi **wa** **fuji san** **o** **mimashita**
 (I; me) (topic) (Mount Fuji) (object) (saw)

わたしは ふじさん みました。

B) I ate sushi yesterday.

kinō **watashi** **wa** **sushi** **o** **tabemashita**
 (yesterday) (I; me) (topic) (sushi) (object) (ate)

きのう わたしは すし たべました。

READING PRACTICE 8: PARTICLES “wa,” “e” AND “o”

You should be able to read some sentences with the particles “wa,” “e” and “o” now. Without looking at the phonetic guides on the bottom of the page try reading these sentences. Check your pronunciation when you are done. You may want to repeat this practice to increase accuracy and fluency.

1. せんしゅう は ふゆやすみ でした。
2. わたし は ともだち の うち へ いきました。
3. えいが を みました。
4. ともだち は まいにち おかし を たべます。
5. らいしゅう はいしゃ へ いきます。
6. ともだち は はいしゃ が きらい です。
7. はる やすみ は いつ ですか。
8. どこ へ いきますか。
9. なに を しますか。
10. わたし は らいねん にほん へ りゅうがく します。
11. にほんご を べんきょう します。

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. sen shū wa fuyu yasumi deshita. | Last week was winter break. |
| 2. watashi wa tomodachi no uchi e ikimashita. | I went to a friend's house. |
| 3. eiga o mimashita. | (We) saw a movie. |
| 4. tomodachi wa mainichi okashi o tabemasu. | My friend eats snacks everyday. |
| 5. raishū haisha e ikimasu. | (My friend) is going to the dentist next week. |
| 6. tomodachi wa haisha ga kirai desu. | My friend hates the dentist. |
| 7. haru yasumi wa itsu desu ka. | When is spring vacation? |
| 8. doko e ikimasu ka. | Where will you go? |
| 9. nani o shimasu ka. | What will you do? |
| 10. watashi wa rainen nihon e ryūgaku shimasu. | I will study abroad in Japan next year. |
| 11. nihongo o benkyō shimasu. | (I) will study Japanese. |

SECTION THREE

Reading and Writing Practice



Commonly Mistaken Hiragana

Commonly Mistaken Combined Characters

Map of Japan

Family Members

Daily Expressions

Numbers

Parts of the Body

Weather

Places at School

In the Classroom

At the Department Store

Japanese Foods

Japanese Lunch Kiosk

Animals

なまえ _____

Commonly Mistaken Hiragana

Part A:

Circle the correct hiragana character.

- i け こ り い き ま も
1. **ku** し く つ て ん へ え
2. **a** お ぬ ゆ わ あ め ね
3. **sa** よ き を ち せ け さ
4. **ta** た な さ は も こ い
5. **nu** あ め わ ぬ お な ま
6. **ne** れ ね わ あ お ゆ の
7. **wa** ね あ れ め ぬ わ つ
8. **ma** も き ま に こ た ほ
9. **su** む る ぬ す み ね ま
10. **ri** い り こ ら う そ え
11. **ra** う え む ら お や な
12. **ke** い に り ほ は せ け
13. **so** ろ と て こ え そ ん
14. **tsu** て う ら つ め わ ち
15. **ni** こ い り た に ほ は
16. **ha** ほ け は に な も ま
17. **ya** か な つ う や ら め

Time _____:

Part B:

Circle the correct hiragana character.

- ko ほ い に た こ も り
1. **shi** し つ へ く ん て と
2. **o** や な お め あ ね ぬ
3. **ki** さ よ を ち ま も き
4. **na** た な き は ほ も よ
5. **me** ぬ お あ ゆ わ め ね
6. **re** ぬ そ わ ね れ あ つ
7. **ro** ろ そ る を よ と え
8. **ho** は ま き ほ さ こ た
9. **mu** す む み ま ね ぬ る
10. **ru** ろ そ と よ む す る
11. **u** ら え や う お む な
12. **se** は け に た は せ り
13. **chi** さ つ た ろ ち を そ
14. **te** そ く て し つ へ ん
15. **no** の て あ ぬ め つ う
16. **mo** ま き も ほ け は し
17. **e** ん き う ら れ え そ

Time _____:

なまえ _____

Commonly Mistaken Combined Characters

Part A:

Circle the correct combined character.

- gyo きよ じよ **ぎよ** びよ
- shu しや しゆ じゆ ちゆ
 - cho ちゃ ぢゃ しょ ちよ
 - myu みゆ みよ みゃ ちゆ
 - bya ぴゃ ひゃ びゃ びよ
 - gyu ぎゃ きゆ きよ ぎゆ
 - nya にゆ にゃ りゃ によ
 - rya りゃ によ りゆ りよ
 - pyu ぴゃ ひゅ ぴよ ぴゅ
 - jo じゃ しょ じよ じゆ
 - kya ぎゃ きゆ きよ きゃ
 - hyo ひゅ ひよ ぴよ びよ
 - pyo ひよ ぴよ びよ ぴゅ
 - kyu きゃ ぎゅ きゆ きよ
 - sho しゅ じゅ しょ じよ
 - byo ひよ びゅ ぴよ びよ

Part B:

Circle the correct combined character.

- kyo びよ ぎよ きゆ **きよ**
- ju しゅ じゅ じゃ じよ
 - nyo によ にく りゆ ちゆ
 - nyu にく にゃ によ りゆ
 - hya ひゅ みゅ りゅ ひゃ
 - myo みゃ りよ みよ ちよ
 - byu びゅ びゅ ひゅ きゅ
 - ryo りゃ りよ ぴよ りゅ
 - hyu ひゅ ひゃ びゅ ひゅ
 - chu ちゃ しゅ ちゅ しゃ
 - ja しゃ じゃ しゅ じゅ
 - cha しゃ ちゅ ぢゃ ちよ
 - ryu りゅ りゃ ぢゃ りよ
 - gya ぎゃ しゅ しゃ ぎゅ
 - sha しゅ しゃ じゃ じゅ
 - pya ぴゅ びゃ ぴゃ ひゃ

Time _____:

Time _____:

なまえ _____

Map of Japan

Major Islands of Japan

1. Hokkaido (ho kka i dō)

--	--	--	--	--	--

2. Honshu (ho n shū)

--	--	--	--	--

3. Shikoku (shi ko ku)

--	--	--

4. Kyushu (kyū shū)

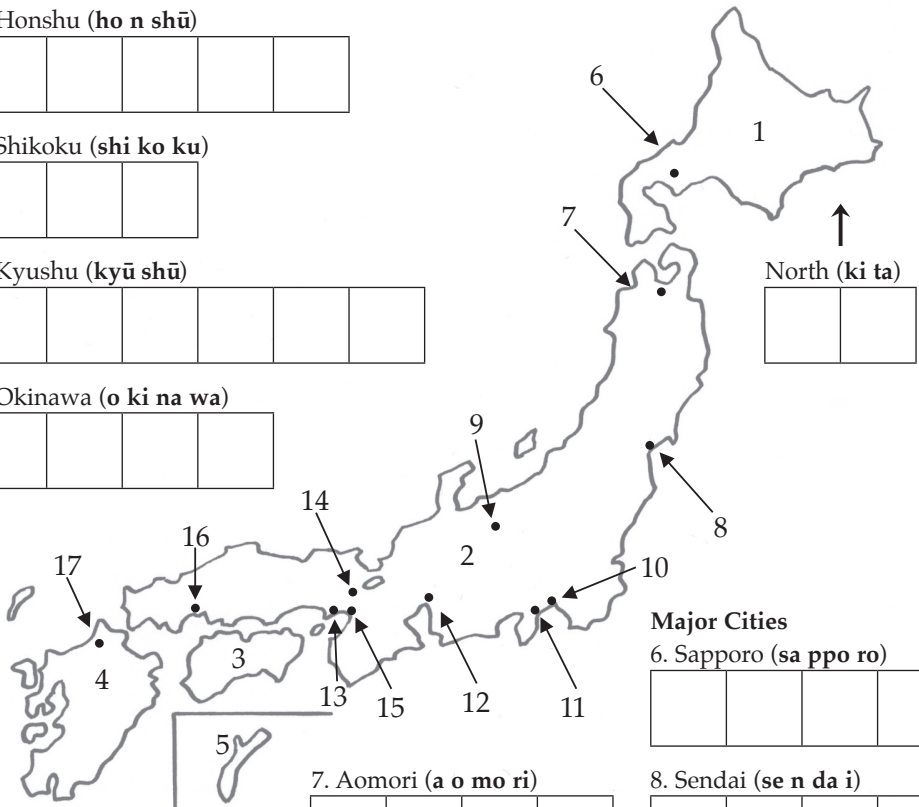
--	--	--	--	--	--

5. Okinawa (o ki na wa)

--	--	--	--

Japan (ni ho n)

--	--	--



North (ki ta)

--	--

Major Cities

6. Sapporo (sa ppo ro)

--	--	--	--

8. Sendai (se n da i)

--	--	--	--

9. Nagano (na ga no)

--	--	--

10. Tokyo – capital (tō kyō)

--	--	--	--	--

11. Yokohama (yo ko ha ma)

--	--	--	--

12. Nagoya (na go ya)

--	--	--

13. Kobe (kō be)

--	--	--

14. Kyoto (kyō to)

--	--	--	--

15. Osaka (ō sa ka)

--	--	--	--

16. Hiroshima (hi ro shi ma)

--	--	--	--

17. Fukuoka (fu ku o ka)

--	--	--	--

なまえ _____

Family Members

と	も	わ	お	か	あ	さ	ん	お	え	お
お	う	た	か	ね	い	お	じ	さ	ん	と
に	と	し	へ	つ	し	ひ	す	た	あ	う
い	く	い	も	う	と	さ	て	ぼ	こ	さ
さ	せ	お	よ	み	お	ほ	ん	く	な	ん
ん	ち	ば	の	り	ば	ね	ら	か	め	お
あ	か	さ	ふ	を	あ	や	え	ゆ	ま	と
じ	ぬ	ん	む	れ	さ	い	と	さ	ん	う
し	お	じ	い	さ	ん	け	そ	き	ん	と

1. I; myself – only boys (bo ku)

--	--

3. I; myself (wa ta shi)

--	--	--

5. younger sister (i mō to)

--	--	--	--

7. younger brother (o tō to)

--	--	--	--

9. uncle (o ji sa n)

--	--	--	--

11. aunt (o ba sa n)

--	--	--	--

2. grandfather (o ji i sa n)

--	--	--	--	--

4. grandmother (o bā sa n)

--	--	--	--	--

6. father (o tō sa n)

--	--	--	--	--

8. mother (o kā sa n)

--	--	--	--	--

10. older brother (o ni i sa n)

--	--	--	--	--

12. older sister (o nē sa n)

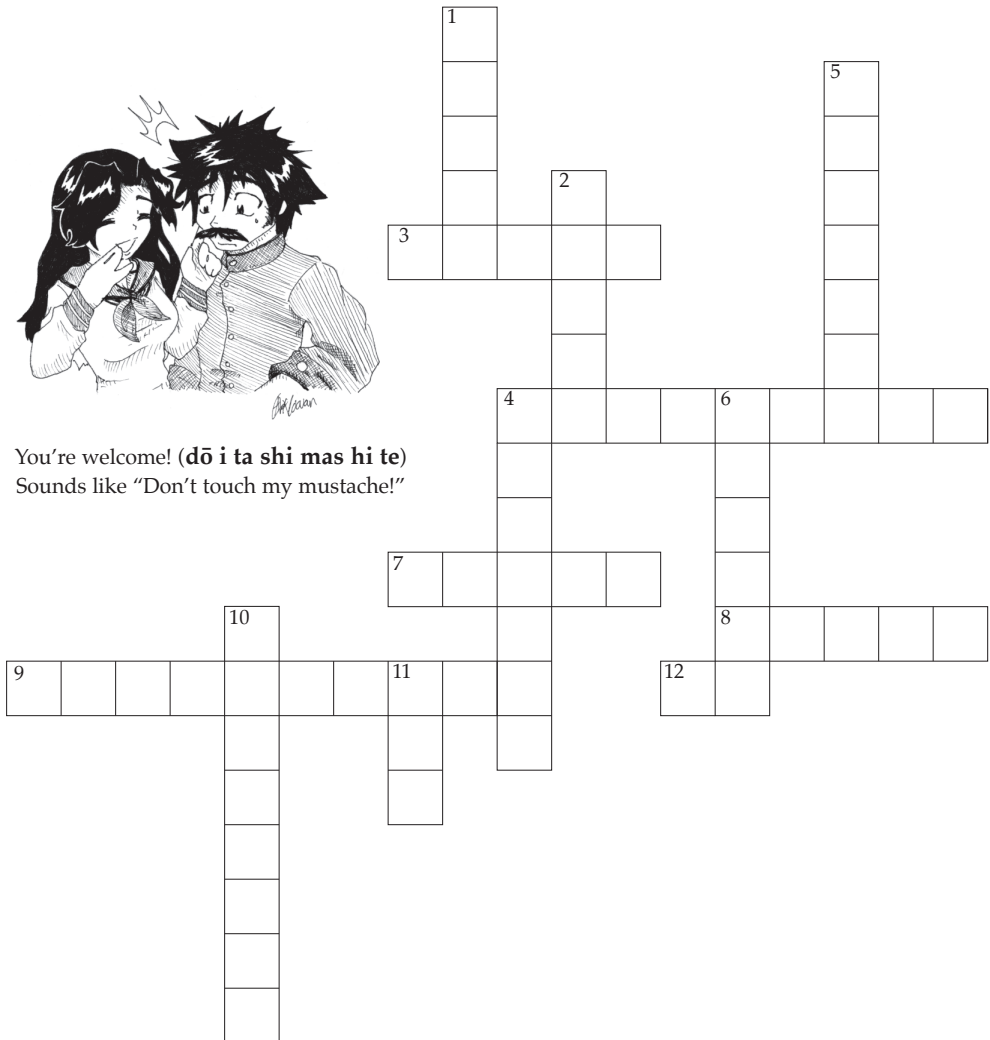
--	--	--	--	--

なまえ _____

Daily Expressions



You're welcome! (**dō i ta shi mas hi te**)
Sounds like "Don't touch my mustache!"



DOWN

1. Excuse me. (**su mi ma se n**)
2. Hello!; Good afternoon! (**ko n ni chi wa***)
4. How are you? (**o ge n ki de su ka**)
5. Good night! (**o ya su mi na sa i**)
6. I'm sorry. (**go me n na sa i**)
10. You're welcome! (**dō i ta shi ma shi te**)
11. No. (**i i e**)

ACROSS

3. Good evening! (**ko n ba n wa***)
4. Good morning! (**o ha yō go za i ma su**)
7. I'm fine. (**ge n ki de su**)
8. Goodbye! (**sa yō na ra**)
9. Thank you. (**a ri ga tō go za i ma su**)
12. Yes. (**ha i**)

なまえ

Numbers

Read the numbers in hiragana and connect them in the chart below. What do you see in the picture?

Start: きゅう(9)→	じゅうはち(18)→	にじゅうなな→	さんじゅうなな→	よんじゅうろく↓
↓ ななじゅうさん	←ろくじゅうさん	←ろくじゅうよん	←ごじゅうご	←ごじゅうろく
ななじゅうに→	はちじゅういち→	きゅうじゅういち→	きゅうじゅうに→	はちじゅうさん↓
↓きゅうじゅうよん	←はちじゅうよん	←ななじゅうご	←ななじゅうよん	←ななじゅうさん
はちじゅうご→	ななじゅうご→	ななじゅうろく→	ろくじゅうなな→	ごじゅうなな↓
↓さんじゅう	←さんじゅうきゅう	←にじゅうはち	←さんじゅうなな	←よんじゅうなな
にじゅう→	きゅう	Finished!		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

(Hint: see page 87)

Counting in Japanese

1 いち	11 じゅういち	30 さんじゅう
2 に	12 じゅうに	40 よんじゅう; しじゅう
3 さん	13 じゅうさん	50 ごじゅう
4 よん; し	14 じゅうよん; じゅうし	60 ろくじゅう
5 ご	15 じゅうご	70 ななじゅう; しちじゅう
6 ろく	16 じゅうろく	80 はちじゅう
7 なな; しち	17 じゅうなな; じゅうしち	90 きゅうじゅう
8 はち	18 じゅうはち	100 ひゃく
9 きゅう; く	19 じゅうきゅう; じゅうく	
10 じゅう	20 にじゅう	

なまえ _____

Parts of the Body

1. head (a ta ma)

--	--	--

2. shoulders (ka ta)

--	--

3. knees (hi za)

--	--

4. legs; feet (a shi)

--	--

5. hands (te)

--

6. eyes (me)

--

7. ears (mi mi)

--	--

8. mouth (ku chi)

--	--

9. nose (ha na)

--	--

10. hair (ka mi)

--	--

11. stomach (o na ka)

--	--	--

12. back (se na ka)

--	--	--

13. face (ka o)

--	--

14. teeth (ha)

--

15. throat (no do)

--	--

16. neck (ku bi)

--	--

17. wrist (te ku bi)

--	--	--

18. ankle (a shi ku bi)

--	--	--	--

19. chest (mu ne)

--	--

20. arm (u de)

--	--

21. finger (yu bi)

--	--

22. fingernail (tsu me)

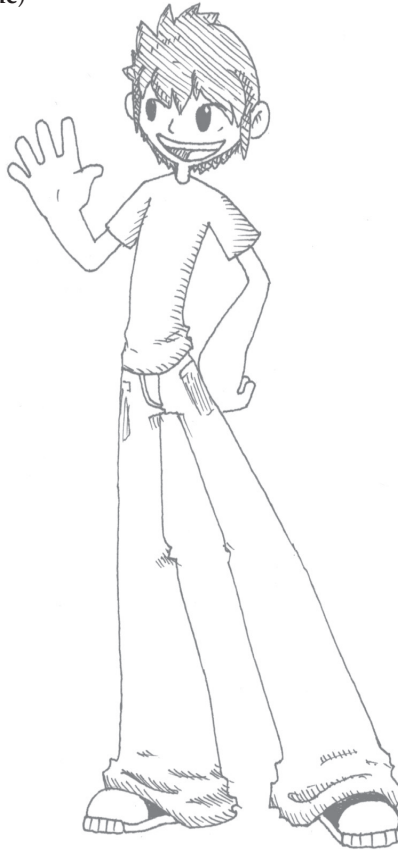
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23. elbow (hi ji)

--	--

24. body (ka ra da)

--	--	--



Common Expressions with Body Vocabulary

smart

あたま が いい

(literally "head is good")

dumb; unintelligent

あたま が わるい

(literally "head is bad")

poor hearing; deaf

みみ が とおい

(literally "ears are far")

bad eyesight

め が わるい

(literally "eyes are bad")

hungry

おなか が すいた

(literally "stomach became empty")

thirsty

のど が かwaitaita

(literally "throat became dry")

1. weather (**te n ki**)

--	--	--

4. cloudy (ku mo ri)

--	--	--

7. windy (ka ze ga tsu yo i)

--	--	--	--	--	--

2. clear; fine (**ha re**)

--	--

5. snow (yu ki)

--	--

8. hot (a tsu i)

--	--	--

3. rain (a me)

--	--

6. storm (a ra shi)

--	--	--

9. cold (sa mu i)

--	--	--

Today's weather is clear.













きょう の てんき は はれ です。

Today 's weather "topic" particle fine is; am; are

[illegible]

なまえ _____

Places at School

1. kindergarten (yō chi e n) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	2. elementary school (shō ga kkō) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	3. junior high school (chū ga kkō) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	4. high school (kō kō) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 
5. college; university (da i ga ku) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	6. classroom (kyō shi tsu) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	7. health center (ho ke n shi tsu) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	8. library (to sho shi tsu) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 
9. music room (o n ga ku shi tsu) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	10. cafeteria* (sho ku dō) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	11. athletic field (u n dō jō) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	12. gym (ta i i ku ka n) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 

13. To which places do students usually bring books (please circle any that apply)?

きょうしつ ほけんしつ としよしつ たいいくかん

14. Which schools come after Jr. High School (please circle any that apply)?

だいがく しょうがっこう こうこう ようちえん










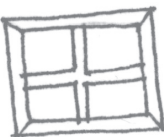


15. Which places are usually found indoors (please circle any that apply)?

としよしつ ほけんしつ うんどうじょう おんがくしつ

*Japanese students (except university students) generally eat lunch in the classroom.

なまえ _____

In the Classroom

1. pencil (e n pi tsu) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	2. paper (ka mi) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	3. scissors (ha sa mi) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	4. book (ho n) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 
5. glue (no ri) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	6. chair (i su) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	7. desk (tsu ku e) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	8. ruler (jō gi) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 
9. calculator (de n ta ku) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	10. window (ma do) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	11. light (de n ki) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 	12. clock (to ke i) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 

13. Which objects could you fit into a backpack (circle any that apply)?

かみ のり いす ほん えんぴつ つくえ

14. Which objects are too big to fit into a desk (circle any that apply)?

いす はさみ まど じょうぎ のり でんき

15. Which objects require electricity /batteries (circle any that apply)?

とけい まど でんたく えんぴつ でんき のり

なまえ _____

At the Department Store

Write in English and Japanese the appropriate floor of each item.

Example: clocks 8th floor

は ち か い

1. kimono (ki mo no) _____

2. toys (o mo cha) _____

3. hats (bō shi) _____

4. books (ho n) _____

5. groceries (sho ku hi n) _____

6. rings (yu bi wa) _____

7. bags (ka ba n) _____

8. shoes (ku tsu) _____

9. suits (se bi ro) _____

10. gloves (te bu ku ro) _____

おもちゃ


10th floor
(ju kka i or ji kkai)

ほん



9th floor (kyū ka i)

とけい



8th floor (ha chi ka i)

かばん



7th floor (na na ka i)

きもの



6th floor (ro kka i)

せびろ



5th floor (go ka i)

ぼうし



4th floor (yo n ka i)

てぶくろ



3th floor (sa n ga i)

くつ



2nd floor (ni ka i)

ゆびわ















1st floor (i kka i)

しょくひん


Basement 1st floor
(chi ka i kka i)

なまえ _____

Japanese Foods

<p>1. rice (go ha n)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> 	<p>2. riceballs (o ni gi ri)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> 	<p>3. box lunch (o be n tō)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> 
<p>4. sushi (su shi)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> 	<p>5. sliced raw fish (sa shi mi)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> 	<p>6. thick white noodles (u do n)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> 
<p>7. buckwheat noodles (so ba)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> 	<p>8. chilled soba (za ru so ba)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> 	<p>9. fried noodles (ya ki so ba)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> 
<p>10. roasted chicken and vegetable kabob (ya ki to ri)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> 	<p>11. battered and deep-fried seafood and vegetables (te n pu ra)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> 	<p>12. roasted sweet potato (ya ki i mo)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> 

なまえ _____

Japanese Lunch Kiosk

Read the menu and answer the questions below.

おにぎり	130 えん	やきいも	300 えん
ごはん	200 えん	やきとり	400 えん
うどん	350 えん	ぎゅうにゅう	200 えん
そば	350 えん	おちゃ	200 えん
やきそば	400 えん	こうちゃ	200 えん
ざるそば	350 えん	みず	0 えん
すし べんとう	500 えん		
てりやき べんとう	650 えん		
てんぷら べんとう	750 えん		

Tell the price of the following lunch menu items.

Example: tempura box lunch (**te n pu ra be n tō**)? 750 えん

- How much is the sushi box lunch (**su shi be n tō**)? _____
- How much is a rice ball (**o ni gi ri**)? _____
- How much are the soba – buckwheat noodles (**so ba**)? _____
- How much are the yakitori – roasted chicken and vegetables on a stick (**ya ki to ri**)? _____
- How much is rice (**go ha n**)? _____
- What would you pay for green tea (**o cha**) and yakisoba – fried noodles (**ya ki so ba**)? _____
- What would you pay for water (**mi zu**) and a teriyaki box lunch (**te ri ya ki be n tō**)? _____
- What would you pay for milk (**gyū nyū**) and chilled soba noodles (**za ru so ba**)? _____



なまえ

Animals

Animals are generally found in one of three environments: 1. as a pet, 2. in the wild or zoo, or 3. on a farm. Write the name of each animal in hiragana in an appropriate category below.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snake (he bi) | <input type="checkbox"/> Bear (ku ma) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dog (i nu) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pig (bu ta) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cow (u shi) | <input type="checkbox"/> Elephant (zō) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bird (to ri) | <input type="checkbox"/> Horse (u ma) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Giraffe (ki ri n) | <input type="checkbox"/> Goldfish (ki n gyo) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbit (u sa gi) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cat (ne ko) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken (ni wa to ri) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fox (ki tsu ne) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monkey (sa ru) | <input type="checkbox"/> Alligator (wa ni) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Turtle (ka me) | <input type="checkbox"/> Deer (shi ka) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tiger (to ra) | <input type="checkbox"/> Frog (ka e ru) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep (hi tsu ji) | <input type="checkbox"/> Squirrel (ri su) |

[illegible]

Answers

Commonly Mistaken Hiragana (page 85) Part A 1. く 2. あ 3. さ 4. た 5. ぬ 6. ね 7. わ 8. ま 9. す 10. り 11. ら 12. け 13. そ 14. つ 15. に 16. は 17. や **Part B** 1. し 2. お 3. き 4. な 5. め 6. れ 7. ろ 8. ほ 9. む 10. る 11. う 12. せ 13. ち 14. て 15. の 16. も 17. え

Commonly Mistaken Combined Characters (page 86) Part A 1. しゅ 2. ちょ 3. みゅ 4. びゃ 5. ぎゅ 6. にゃ 7. りゃ 8. ぴゅ 9. じょ 10. きゃ 11. ひょ 12. びょ 13. きゅ 14. しょ 15. びょ **Part B** 1. じゅ 2. によ 3. にゅ 4. ひゃ 5. みょ 6. びゅ 7. りょ 8. ひゅ 9. ちゅ 10. じゃ 11. ちゃ 12. りゅ 13. ぎゃ 14. しゃ 15. ぴゃ

Map of Japan (page 87) にほん (Japan), きた (North) 1. ほっかいどう 2. ほんしゅう 3. しこく 4. きゅうしゅう 5. おきなわ 6. さっぽろ 7. あおもり 8. せんだい 9. ながの 10. とうきょう 11. よこはま 12. なごや 13. こうべ 14. きょうと 15. おおさか 16. ひろしま 17. ふくおか

Family Members (page 88) 1. ぼく 2. おじいさん 3. わたし 4. おばあさん 5. いもうと 6. おとうさん 7. おとうと 8. おかあさん 9. おじさん 10. おにいさん 11. おばさん 12. おねえさん

Daily Expressions (page 89) DOWN 1. すみません 2. こんにちは 4. おげんきですか 5. おやすみなさい 6. ごめんなさい 10. どういたしまして 11. いいえ **ACROSS** 3. こんばんは 4. おはようございます 7. げんきです 8. さようなら 9. ありがとうございます 12. はい

Numbers (page 90) 9→18→27→37→46→56→55→64→63→73→72→81→91→92→83→73→74→75→84→94→85→75→76→67→57→47→37→28→39→30→20→9 Finished! (Pictured: Map of Japan)

Parts of the Body (page 91) 1. あたま 2. かた 3. ひざ 4. あし 5. て 6. め 7. みみ 8. くち 9. はな 10. かみ 11. おなか 12. せなか 13. かお 14. は 15. のど 16. くび 17. てくび 18. あしくび 19. むね 20. うで 21. ゆび 22. つめ 23. ひじ 24. からだ

Weather (page 92) 1. てんき 2. はれ 3. あめ 4. くもり 5. ゆき 6. あらし 7. かぜが強い 8. あつい 9. さむい

Places at School (page 93) 1. ようちえん 2. しょうがっこう 3. ちゅうがっこう 4. こうこう 5. だいがく 6. きょうしつ 7. ほけんしつ 8. としよしつ 9. おんがくしつ 10. しょくどう 11. うんどうじょう 12. たいいくかん 13. きょうしつ、としよしつ 14. だいがく、こうこう 15. としよしつ、ほけんしつ、おんがくしつ

In the Classroom (page 94) 1. えんぴつ 2. かみ 3. はさみ 4. ほん 5. のり 6. いす 7. つくえ 8. じょうぎ 9. でんたく 10. まど 11. でんき 12. とけい 13. かみ、のり、ほん、えんぴつ 14. いす、まど、でんき 15. とけい、でんたく、でんき

At the Department Store (page 95) 1. (6th) ろっかい 2. (10th) じゅうっかい or じっかい 3. (4th) よんかい 4. (9th) きゅうかい 5. (B1) ちかいっかい 6. (1st) いっかい 7. (7th) ななかい 8. (2nd) にかい 9. (5th) ごかい 10. (3rd) さんかい

Japanese Foods (page 96) 1. ごはん 2. おにぎり 3. おべんとう 4. すし 5. さしみ 6. うどん 7. そば 8. ざるそば 9. やきそば 10. やきとり 11. てんぷら 12. やきいも

Japanese Lunch Kiosk (page 97) 1. 500 えん 2. 130 えん 3. 350 えん 4. 400 えん 5. 200 えん 6. 600 えん 7. 650 えん 8. 550 えん

Animals (page 98) Pets (いぬ、とり、かめ、きんぎょ、ねこ、かえる) **Zoo** (へび、きりん、さる、とら、くま、ぞう、きつね、わに、しか、りす) **Farm** (うし、うさぎ、にわとり、ひつじ、ぶた、うま)

SECTION FOUR

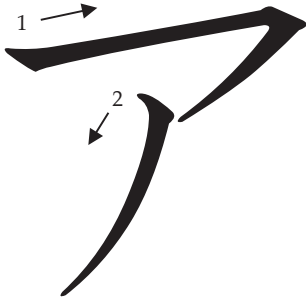
The Basic 46 Katakana Characters

a ア	i イ	u ウ	e エ	o オ
ka カ	ki キ	ku ク	ke ケ	ko コ
sa サ	shi シ	su ス	se セ	so ソ
ta タ	chi チ	tsu ツ	te テ	to ト
na ナ	ni ニ	nu ヌ	ne ネ	no ノ
ha (wa)* ハ	hi ヒ	fu フ	he (e)* ヘ	ho ホ
ma マ	mi ミ	mu ム	me メ	mo モ
ya ヤ		yu ユ		yo ヨ
ra ラ	ri リ	ru ル	re レ	ro ロ
wa ワ				o** ヲ
n ン				

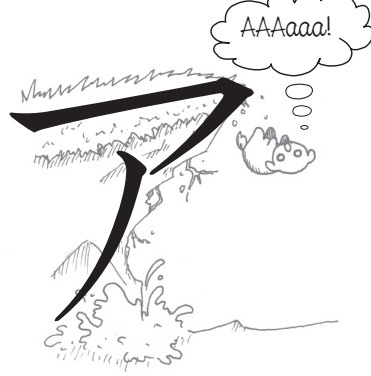


* These characters are pronounced differently when they are used as grammatical particles.

** This character is only used as a grammatical particle. It is not used to write words.



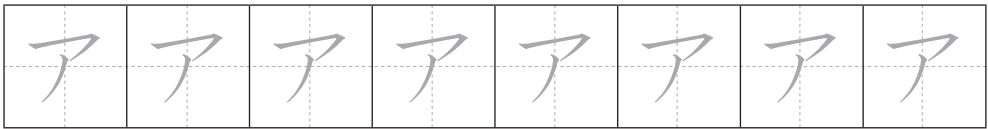
“a” as in father



“AAAAaa!” cried the critter as he fell off the edge of the cliff.

Writing Tip “a” has two strokes and both are brushes.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. a me ri ka (America; United States)

	メ	リ	カ

2. su ko a (score)

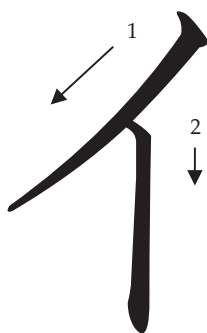
	ス	コ

3. e a ko n (air conditioner; air conditioning)

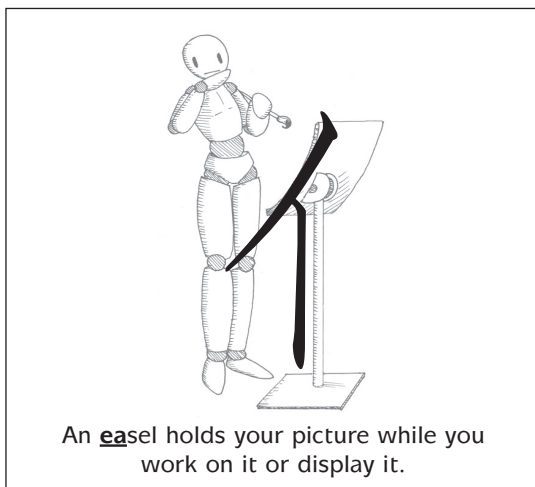
	エ	コ	ン

4. ā to (art)

	ア	ト

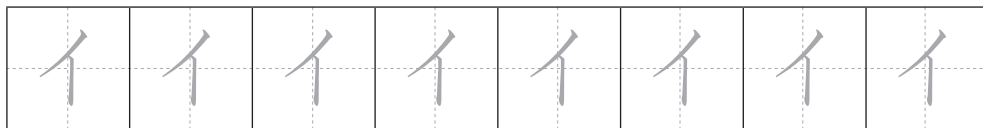


“i” as in easy



Writing Tip “i” has two strokes: 1) a brush and 2) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **to i re** (toilet)

ト			レ
---	--	--	---

2. **a i ro n** (iron)

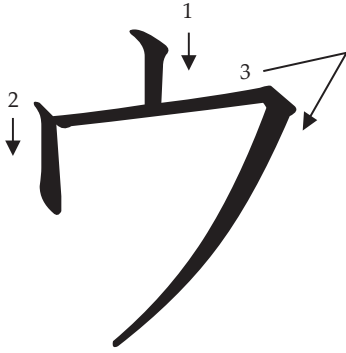
ア			ロ	ン
---	--	--	---	---

3. **na i fu** (knife)

ナ			フ
---	--	--	---

4. **i gi ri su** (England)

	ギ	リ	ス
--	---	---	---



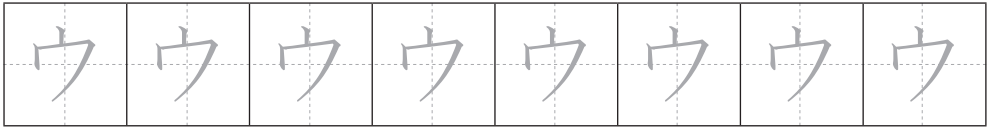
“u” as in you



“Uooo!” The water balloon was cold as it splashed on his back!

Writing Tip “u” has three strokes: 1) a stop, 2) stop and 3) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. u i ru su ((computer) virus)

	イ	ル	ス

2. ki u i (kiwi)

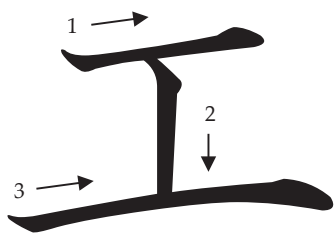
	キ		イ

3. ma u su ((computer) mouse)

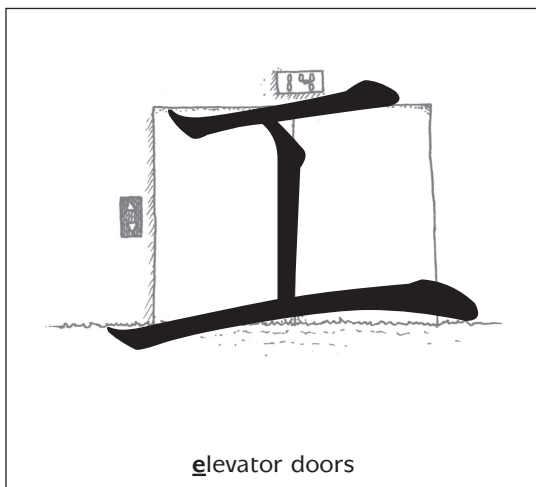
	マ		ス

4. ū ru (wool)

	ー		ル



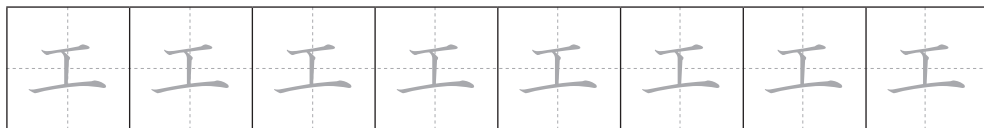
“e” as in red



elevator doors

Writing Tip “e” has three strokes and they are all stops.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. u ē tā (waiter)

ウ		ー	タ	ー
---	--	---	---	---

2. e rā ((computer) error)

		ラ	ー
--	--	---	---

3. e su sa i zu (small; “S” size)

	ス	サ	イ	ズ
--	---	---	---	---

4. e i zu (AIDS)

		イ	ズ
--	--	---	---

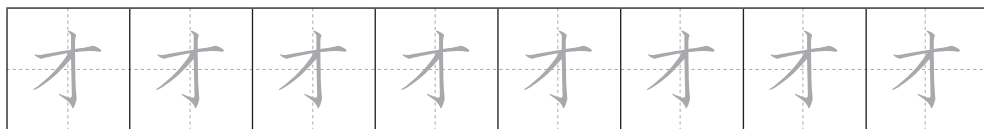
“o” as in oak



an Olympic figure skater

Writing Tip “o” has three strokes: 1) a stop, 2) jump and 3) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. o re n ji (orange)

	レ	ン	ジ

2. ta o ru (towel)

	タ		ル

3. o ru gan (organ – musical instrument)

	ル	ガ	ン

4. o i ru (oil)

		イ	ル

“ka” as in car

Katakana “ka” カ and hiragana “ka” か look alike, except that katakana “ka” has one fewer stroke, and its lines are straighter and more angular.

Writing Tip “ka” has two strokes: 1) a jump and 2) brush.

Trace these characters.

カ	カ	カ	カ	カ	カ	カ	カ
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. ka me ra (camera)

	メ	ラ
--	---	---

2. ka ra o ke (karaoke)

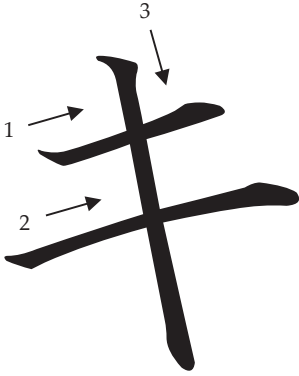
	ラ	オ	ケ
--	---	---	---

3. ka ta ka na (katakana characters)

	タ		ナ
--	---	--	---

4. ka na da (Canada)

	ナ	ダ
--	---	---



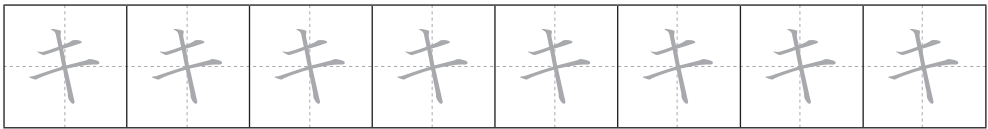
“ki” as in key



Katakana “ki” キ and hiragana “ki” き look alike, except that katakana “ki” has one fewer stroke, and it does not have a “jump” stroke.

Writing Tip “ki” has three strokes and they are all stops.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. su tē ki (steak)

ス	テ	ー	
---	---	---	--

2. me ki shi ko (Mexico)

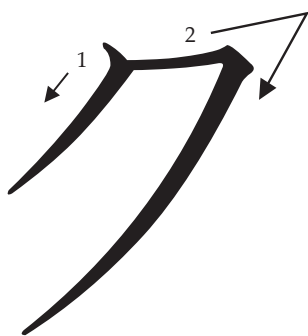
メ		シ	コ
---	--	---	---

3. ho chi ki su (stapler – Hotchkiss)

ホ	チ		ス
---	---	--	---

4. su ki i (ski; skiing)

ス		ー	
---	--	---	--



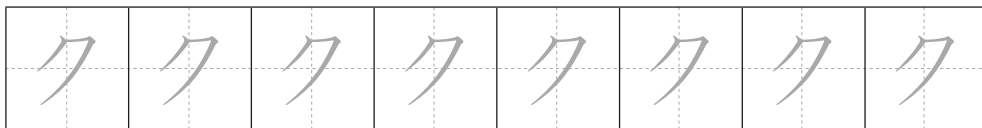
“ku” as in cuckoo



a cool way to write seven (7)

Writing Tip “ku” has two strokes and both are brushes.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. pi n ku (pink)

ピ	ン		
---	---	--	--

2. ku ra su (class)

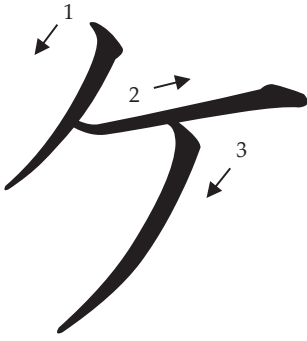
		ラ	ス
--	--	---	---

3. ta ku shi i (taxi)

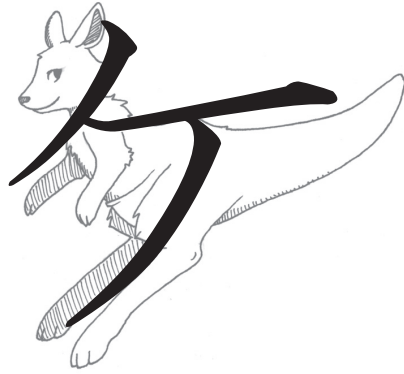
タ		シ	ー
---	--	---	---

4. ba i ku (motorcycle)

バ	イ		
---	---	--	--



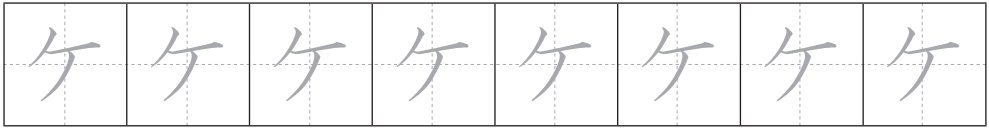
"ke" as in Kevin



a kangaroo

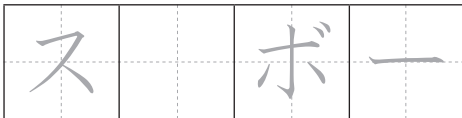
Writing Tip "ke" has three strokes: 1) a brush, 2) stop and 3) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

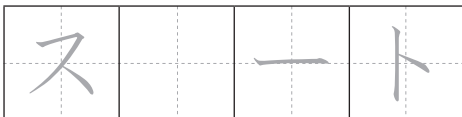
1. **su ke bō** (skateboard; to skateboard)



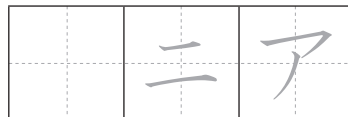
2. **kē ki** (cake)

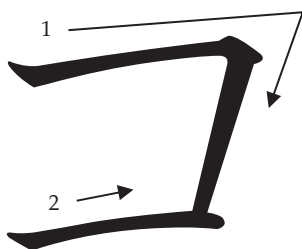


3. **su kē to** (skates; to skate)



4. **ke ni a** (Kenya)



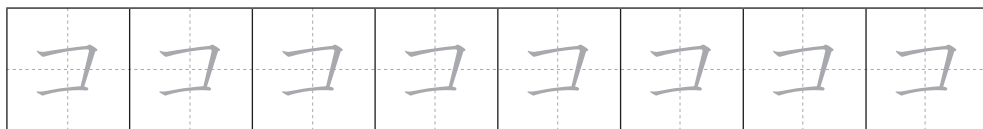


“ko” as in cocoa



Writing Tip “ko” has two strokes and both are stops.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. ko n s̄a to (concert)

		ン	サ	ー	ト
--	--	---	---	---	---

2. kō chi (coach)

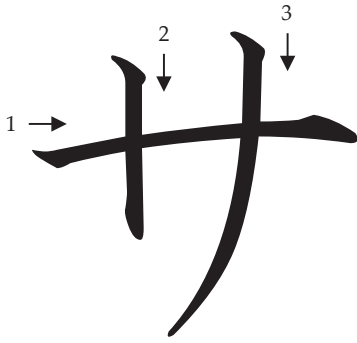
		ー	チ
--	--	---	---

3. kō hii (coffee)

		ー	ヒ	ー
--	--	---	---	---

4. kō to (coat; (tennis) court)

		ー	ト
--	--	---	---



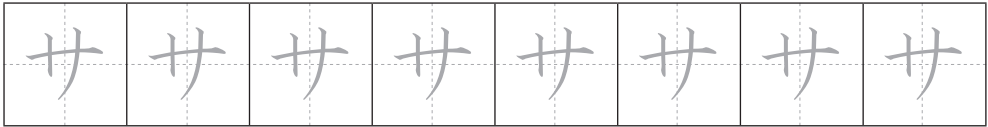
“sa” as in saw



A sawhorse holds wood while you cut it.

Writing Tip “sa” has three strokes: 1) a stop, 2) stop and 3) brush.

Trace these characters.



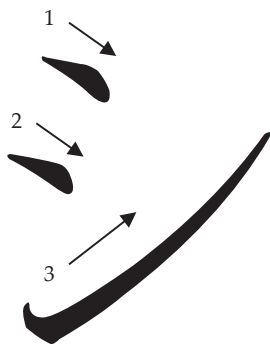
Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. sa i n (signature; autograph)

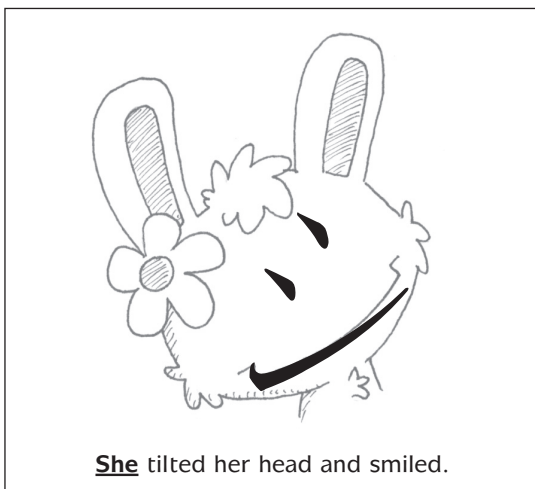
2. sā ka su (circus)

3. sā chi (search)

4. sa n da ru (sandals)



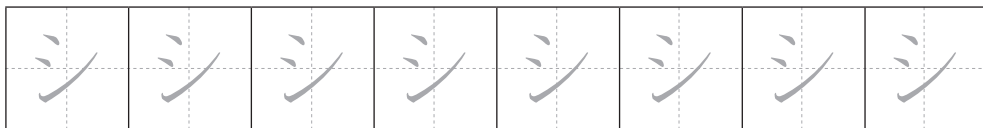
“shi” as in she



She tilted her head and smiled.

Writing Tip “shi” has three strokes: 1) a stop, 2) stop and 3) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **shi ri a** (Syria)

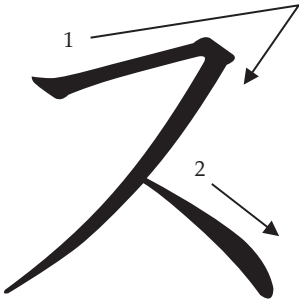
		リ	ア
--	--	---	---

2. **mi shi n** (sewing machine)

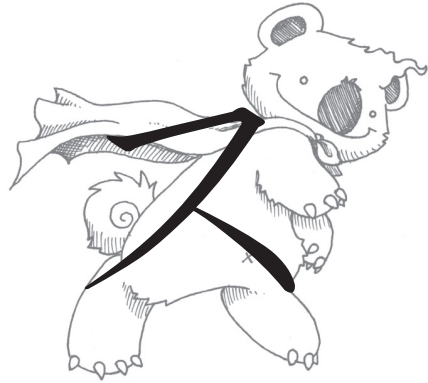
ミ		ン
---	--	---

3. **shi ri a ru** (cereal)

		リ	ア	ル
--	--	---	---	---



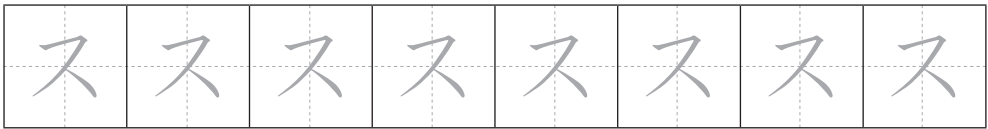
“su” as in super



It's Superman... er, super-critter.

Writing Tip “su” has two strokes: 1) a brush and 2) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. su kā to (skirt)

2. su te re o (stereo)

3. ku ri su ma su (Christmas)

4. ki su (kiss)

“se” as in set

Katakana “se” and hiragana “se”
look a little alike.

Writing Tip “se” has two strokes: 1) a brush and 2) stop.

Trace these characters.

セ	セ	セ	セ	セ	セ	セ	セ
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. sē tā (sweater)

	一	タ	一
--	---	---	---

2. sē ru (sale)

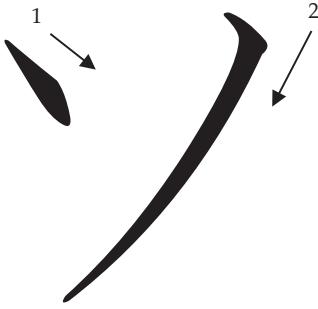
	一	ル
--	---	---

3. se ro ri (celery)

	ロ	リ
--	---	---

4. se i kō (Seiko watch corporation)

	イ	コ	ー
--	---	---	---



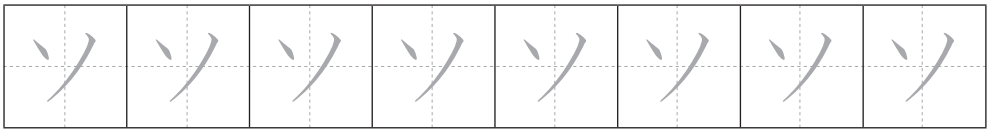
"so" as in so



A kid (goat) got into a fight after school, and he got an eye knocked out! The next day when other kids (goats) pointed and said, "You've only got one eye," he said, "So!"

Writing Tip "so" has two strokes: 1) a stop and 2) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. shi i sō (seesaw)

シ	ー		ー
---	---	--	---

2. so fa (sofa)

	フ	ア
--	---	---

3. so u ru (Seoul, Korea; soul)

	ウ	ル
--	---	---

4. sō da (soda)

	ー	ダ
--	---	---

READING PRACTICE 1: ア ~ ソ

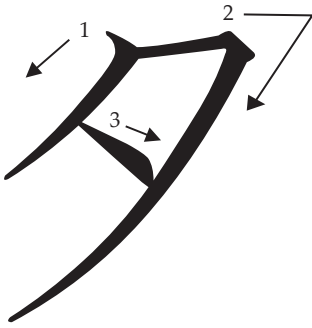
You should be able to read the words below now. Fold the page lengthwise (or cover it with your hand) so you can only see the katakana words on the left hand side. Try reading them aloud and then check with the words on the right. Keep practicing until you can read them all. For an extra challenge try reading the Japanese and saying the English word before checking.

Note: In katakana long vowels are written with a line (ー) called **bō**, rather than writing one of the five vowels as in hiragana. In this way, katakana writing is simpler than hiragana writing. Several of the example words below have long vowels. In order to improve your pronunciation, be sure to pronounce the long vowels with approximately twice the length of a single syllable.

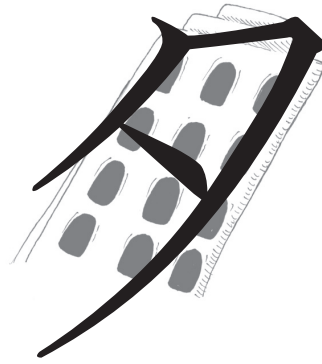
ア	イ	ス		a i su (ice)
ス	コ	ア		su ko a (score)
ア	ク	セ	ス	a ku se su (access)
イ	カ			i ka (squid)
サ	イ			sa i (rhino)
キ	ウ	イ		ki u i (kiwi)
エ	キ	ス		e ki su (extract)
オ	ス	カ	ー	o su kā (the Oscar)
オ	ア	シ	ス	o a shi su (oasis)
サ	ー	カ	ス	sā ka su (circus)
キ	ス			ki su (kiss)
ス	イ	ス		su i su (Switzerland)
カ	ー	キ		kā ki (khaki color)
ス	キ	ー		su ki i (to ski; skiing)
サ	ク	セ	ス	sa ku se su (success)
ケ	ー	キ		kē ki (cake)
オ	ー	ケ	ー	ō kē (okay)
コ	コ	ア		ko ko a (cocoa)
セ	イ	コ	ー	se i kō (Seiko company)
シ	ー	ソ	ー	shi i sō (seesaw)
コ	ソ	コ	ソ	ko so ko so (sneakily; stealthily)

Romaji pronunciation guide:

a	as in father
i	as in easy
u	as in you
e	as in red
o	as in oak



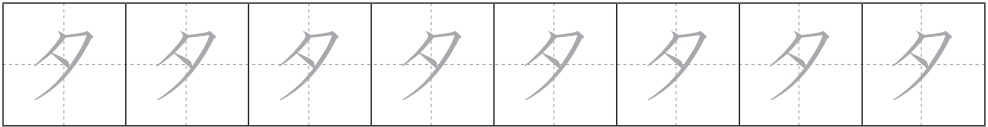
“ta” as in tall



the leaning **tower** of Pisa (In Japanese “tower” is pronounced with a “**ta**” as in tall).

Writing Tip “ta” has three strokes: 1) a brush, 2) brush and 3) stop.

Trace these characters.



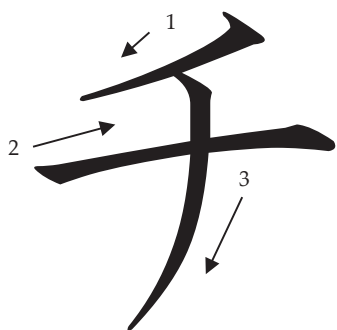
Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **ta i** (Thailand; tie)

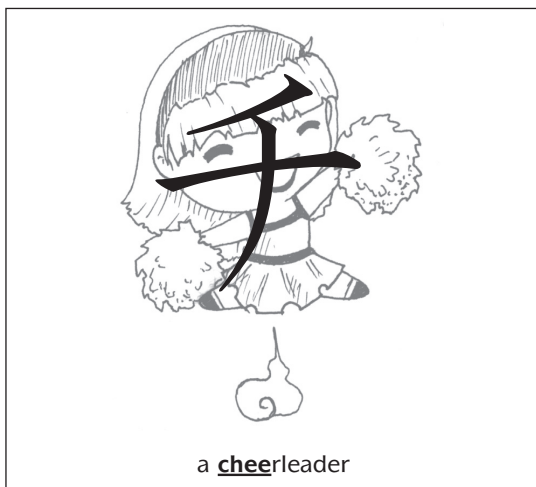
2. **sē tā** (sweater)

3. **ta ku shi i** (taxi)

4. **ta ko su** (taco)

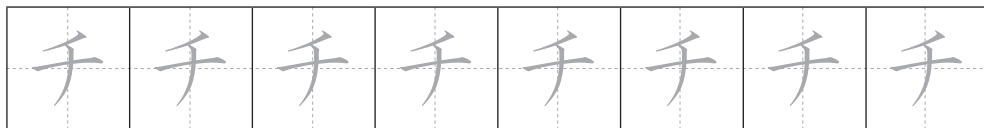


“chi” as in cheer



Writing Tip “chi” has three strokes: 1) a brush, 2) stop and 3) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **chi ki n** ((cooked) chicken)

		キ	ン
--	--	---	---

2. **se n chi** (centimeter)

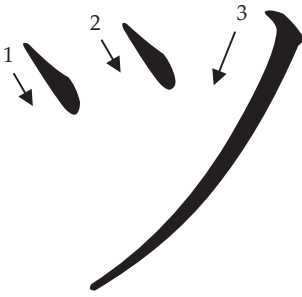
セ	ン	
---	---	--

3. **i n chi** (inch)

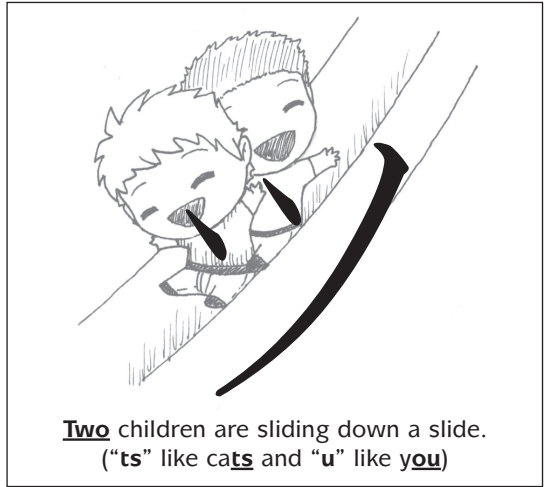
イ	ン		
---	---	--	--

4. **kō chi** (coach)

コ	ー		
---	---	--	--



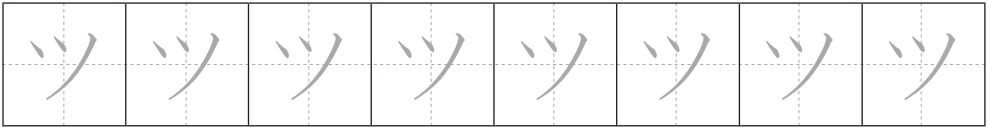
"tsu" as in cats



Two children are sliding down a slide.
("ts" like cats and "u" like you)

Writing Tip "tsu" has three strokes: 1) a stop 2) stop and 3) brush. (Note: **tsu** ツ and **shi** シ look alike, but the strokes in **tsu** go downward, and the strokes in **shi** go more to the right.)

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **sū tsu** (suit)

ス	ー		
---	---	--	--

2. **tsu ā** (tour)

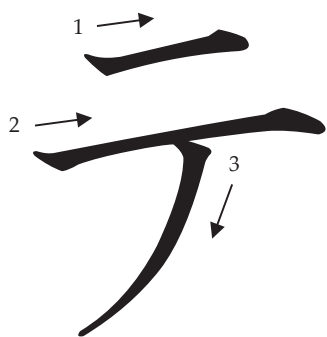
	ア	ー	
--	---	---	--

3. **shi i tsu** ((bed)sheet)

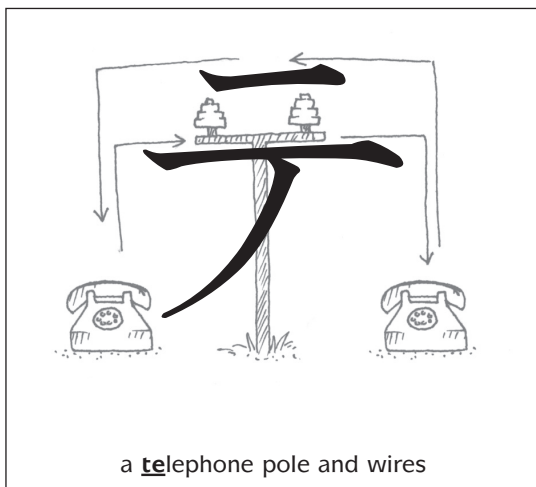
シ	ー		
---	---	--	--

4. **ta i tsu** (tights)

タイ			
----	--	--	--



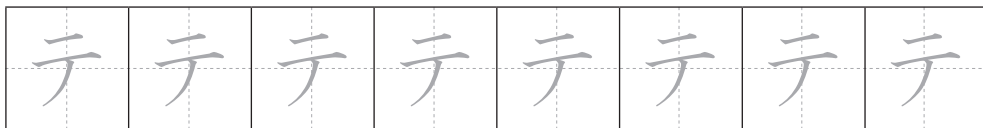
“te” as in telephone



a telephone pole and wires

Writing Tip “te” has three strokes: 1) a stop, 2) stop and 3) brush

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. k^ā te n (curtains)

カ	ー		ン
---	---	--	---

2. te ki su to (textbook)

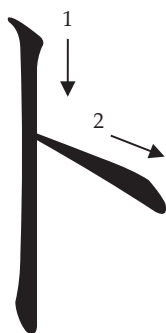
	キ	ス	ト
--	---	---	---

3. te ku (tech – abbr.)

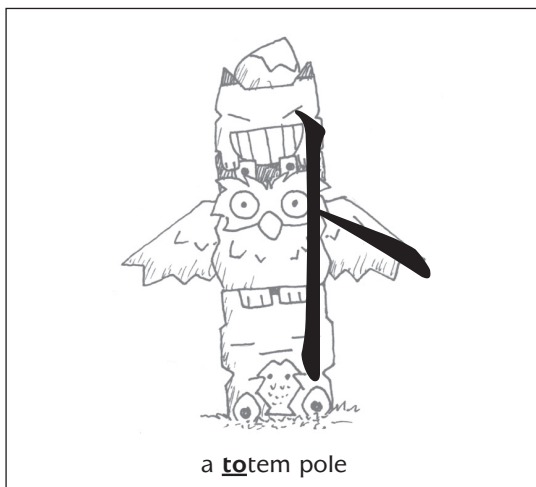
	ク
--	---

4. ā ki te ku to (architect)

ア	ー	キ		ク	ト
---	---	---	--	---	---



“to” as in totem



Writing Tip “to” has two strokes and they are both stops.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. su k^ā to (skirt)

ス	カ	ー	
---	---	---	--

2. te su to (test)

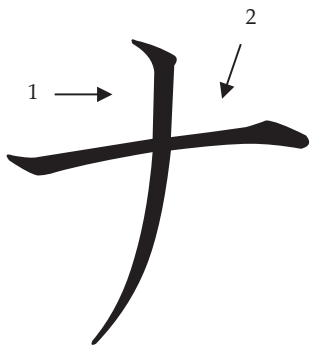
テ	ス	
---	---	--

3. sa i to ((web or real) site)

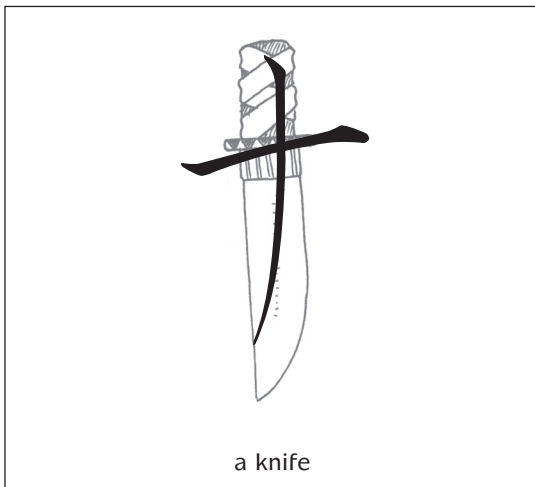
サ	イ	
---	---	--

4. su t^ā to (start)

ス	タ	ー	
---	---	---	--



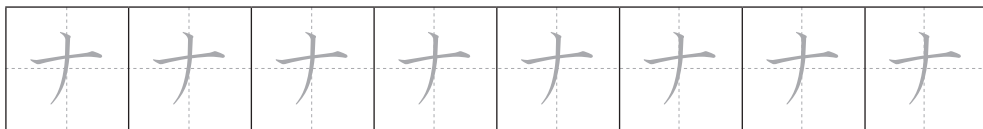
“na” as in not



a knife

Writing Tip “na” has two strokes: 1) a stop and 2) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. na i fu (knife)

	イ	フ	

2. na rē tā (narrator)

	レ	ー	タ	ー	

3. tsu na (tuna)

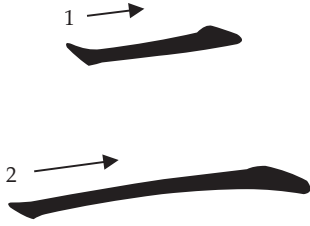
	ツ		

4. sa u na (sauna)

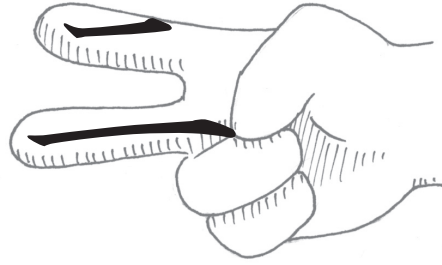
	サ	ウ	

5. na sa (NASA)

		サ	



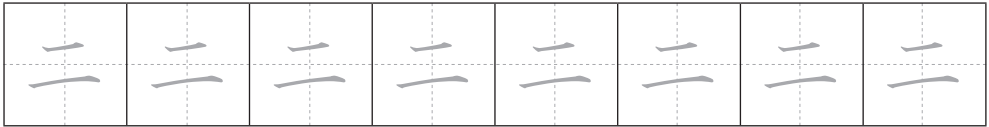
“ni” as in need



The Japanese word for “two” is ni.

Writing Tip “ni” has two strokes and they are both stops.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **te ni su** (tennis)

テ		ス
---	--	---

2. **e su to ni a** (Estonia)

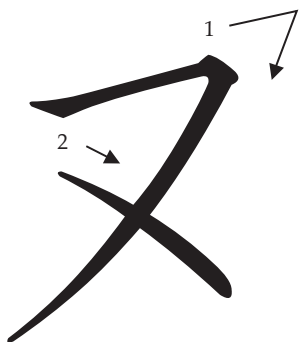
エ	ス	ト		ア
---	---	---	--	---

3. **so ni i** (Sony company)

ソ		ー
---	--	---

4. **su ni i kā** (sneakers)

ス		ー	カ	ー
---	--	---	---	---



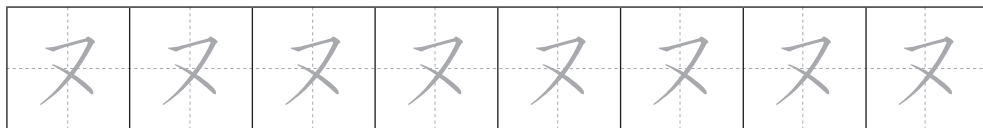
“nu” as in new



a new way to write seven (7)

Writing Tip “nu” has two strokes: 1) a brush and 2) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. a i nu (Ainu – indigenous people of Japan)

ア	イ		
---	---	--	--

2. su nū pi i (Snoopy)

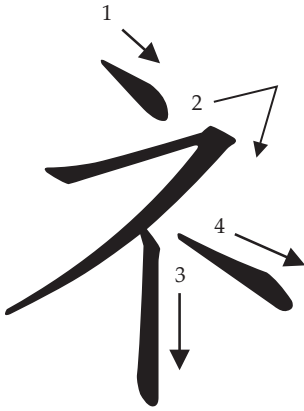
ス		一	ピ	ー
---	--	---	---	---

3. nū do ru (noodles)

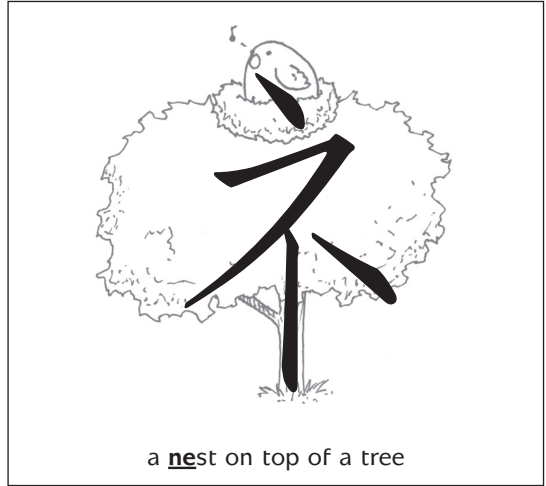
	一	ド	ル
--	---	---	---

4. ka nū (canoe)

カ		一
---	--	---



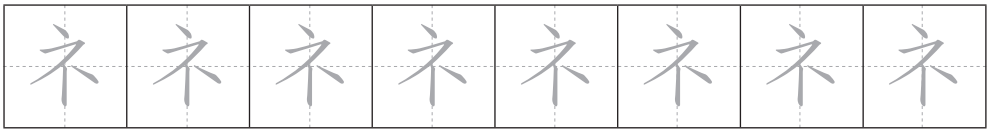
“ne” as in nest



a nest on top of a tree

Writing Tip “ne” has four strokes: 1) a stop, 2) brush, 3) stop and 4) stop.

Trace these characters.

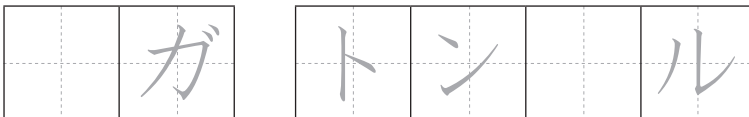


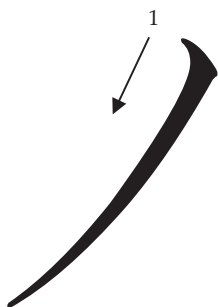
Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. i n t̄a ne tto (internet)

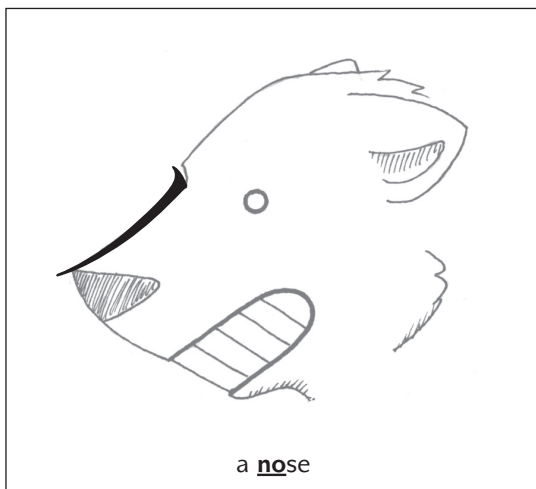


2. ne ga ((photo) negatives) 3. to n ne ru (tunnel)





“no” as in nose



a nose

Writing Tip “no” has only one stroke and it is a brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **nō to** (notebook)

		一	ト

2. **pi a no** (piano)

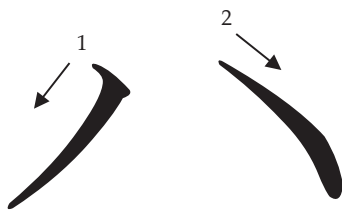
ピ	ア	

3. **ka ji no** (casino)

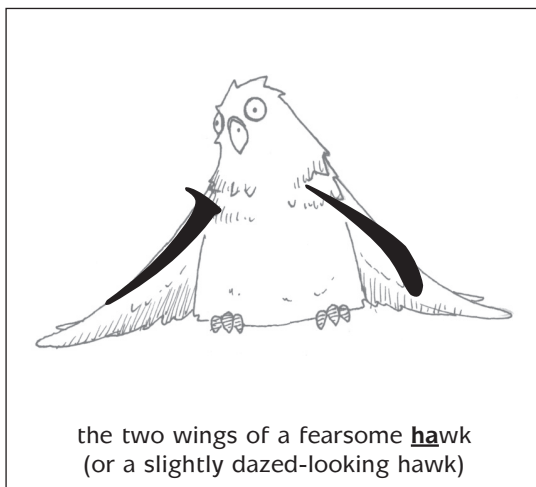
カ	ジ	

4. **su nō bō do** (snowboard; snowboarding)

ス		一	ボ	ー	ド



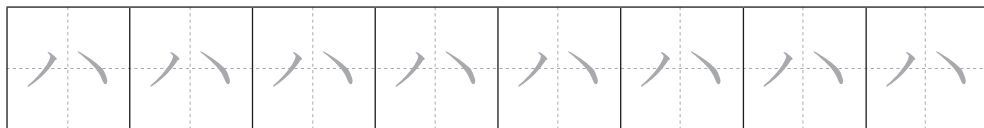
“ha” as in hawk



the two wings of a fearsome hawk
(or a slightly dazed-looking hawk)

Writing Tip “ha” has two strokes: 1) a brush and 2) stop

Trace these characters.



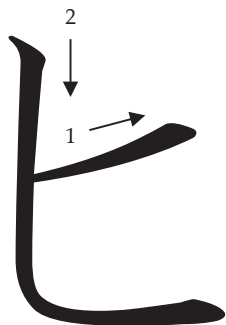
Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. ha i ki n gu (hiking)

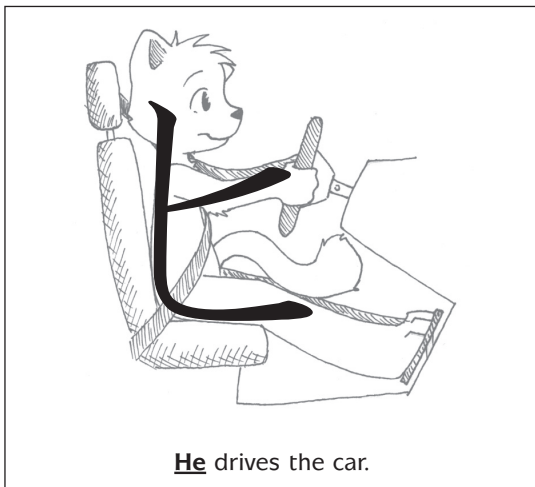
2. ha i chi (Haiti)

3. ha i te ku (high tech)

4. ha su ki i (Husky – dog)



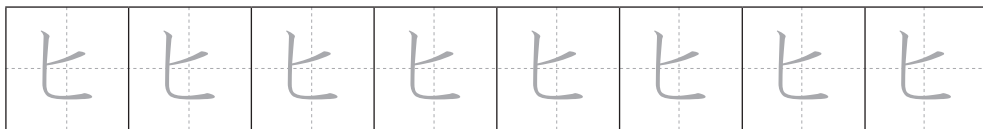
“hi” as in he



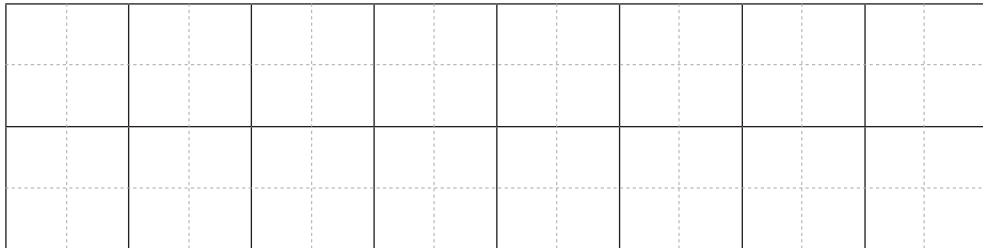
He drives the car.

Writing Tip “hi” has two strokes and they are both stops.

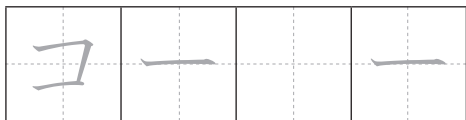
Trace these characters.



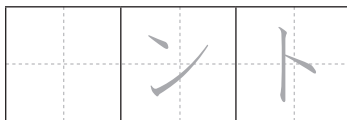
Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.



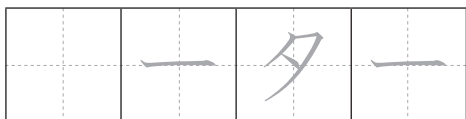
1. **kō hi i** (coffee)



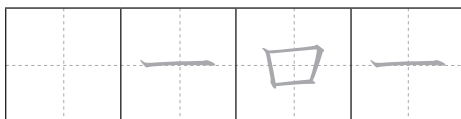
2. **hi n to** (hint)

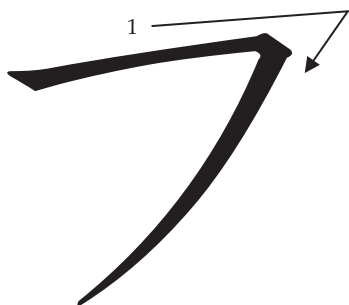


3. **hi i tā** (heater)



4. **hi i rō** (hero)





“fu” as in **Hoot!**
(except the lips are less rounded,
and more air escapes from the mouth)



The owl cries, “**Hoot! Hoot!**”

Writing Tip “fu” has only one stroke and it is a brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. su kā fu (scarf)

ス	カ	ー	
---	---	---	--

2. fu ra n su (France)

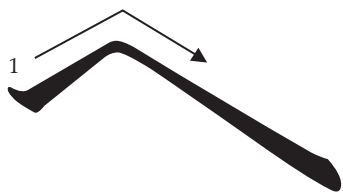
	ラ	ン	ス
--	---	---	---

3. so fu to (software)

ソ		ト
---	--	---

4. go ru fu (golf)

ゴ	ル	
---	---	--



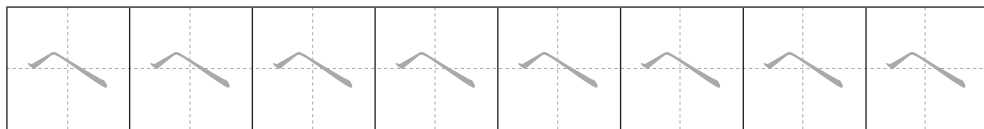
“he” as in help



There are no significant differences between katakana “**he**” and hiragana “*he*.”

Writing Tip “he” has only one stroke and it is a stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

[illegible]

1. **he ri** (helicopter)

2. he ddo ho n (headphones)

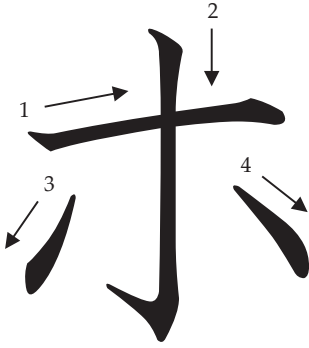
	ッ	ド	ホ	ン
--	---	---	---	---

3. **he ru pu** (help)

ル プ

4. **he a ka rā** (hair dye; hair coloring)

ア	カ	ラ	一
---	---	---	---



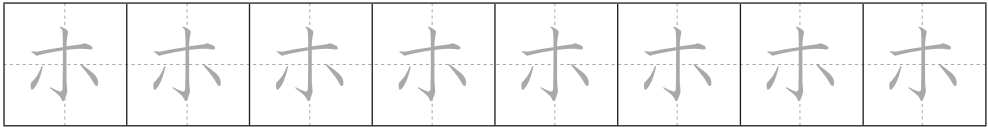
“ho” as in Ho! Ho!



Mr. “Ho Ho” laughs even when stuck in a chimney!

Writing Tip “ho” has four strokes: 1) a stop, 2) jump, 3) stop and 4) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **ho te ru** (hotel)

		テ	ル

2. **ho kkē** (hockey)

		ッ	ケー

3. **hō mu** ((train station) platform)

		ー	ム

4. **ho i ru** (foil)

		イ	ル

READING PRACTICE 2: タ～ホ

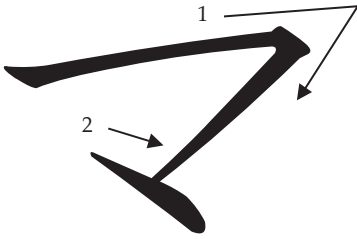
You should be able to read the words below now. Fold the page lengthwise (or cover it with your hand) so you can only see the katakana words on the left hand side. Try reading them aloud and then check with the words on the right. Keep practicing until you can read them all. For an extra challenge try reading the Japanese and saying the English word before checking.

Note: In katakana long vowels are written with a line (ー) called **bō**, rather than writing one of the five vowels as in hiragana. In this way, katakana writing is simpler than hiragana writing. Several of the example words below have long vowels. In order to improve your pronunciation, be sure to pronounce the long vowels with approximately twice the length of a single syllable.

タ	ク	シ	ー	ta ku shi i (taxi)
タ	コ	ス		ta ko su (taco)
コ	ー	チ		kō chi (coach)
ス	ー	ツ		sū tsu (suit)
ツ	ア	ー		tsu ā (tour)
テ	キ	ス	ト	te ki su to (textbook)
ス	カ	ー	ト	su kā to (skirt)
テ	ス	ト		te su to (test)
ナ	イ	フ		na i fu (knife)
ツ	ナ			tsu na (tuna)
カ	タ	カ	ナ	ka ta ka na (katakana)
テ	ニ	ス		te ni su (tennis)
ス	ニ	ー	カ	su ni i kā (sneakers)
カ	ヌ	ー		ka nū (canoe)
ア	イ	ヌ		a i nu (Ainu – indigenous people of northern Japan)
ノ	ー	ト		nō to (notebook)
ハ	ス	キ	ー	ha su ki i (Husky – dog)
コ	ー	ヒ	ー	kō hi i (coffee)
ヒ	ン	ト		hi n to (hint)
ソ	フ	ト		so fu to (software)

Romaji pronunciation guide:

<i>a</i>	as in father
<i>i</i>	as in easy
<i>u</i>	as in you
<i>e</i>	as in red
<i>o</i>	as in oak



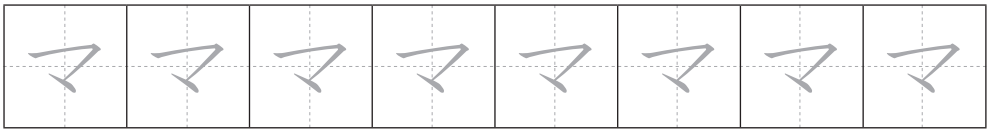
“ma” as in mom



Mom holds Baby while she attends to some work.

Writing Tip “ma” has two strokes: 1) a brush and 2) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. to ma to (tomato)

ト			ト
---	--	--	---

2. mā kā (marker)

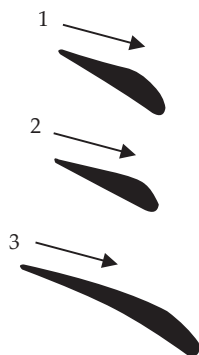
マ	カ	マ
---	---	---

3. ma i ku (microphone)

イ	ク
---	---

4. ma i ru (mile)

イ	ル
---	---



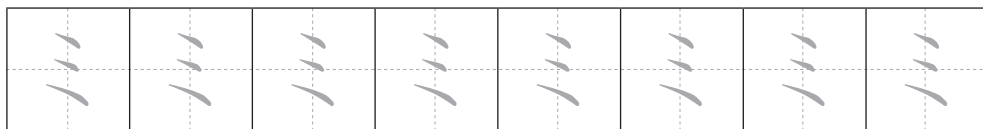
“mi” as in meow



A cat's three whiskers, “Meow!”

Writing Tip “mi” has three strokes and all three are stops.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **mi** ki sā (blender)

		キ	サ	ー
--	--	---	---	---

2. **sa** ra **mi** (salami)

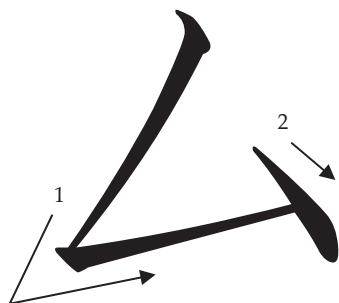
サ	ラ	
---	---	--

3. **mi** ni kā (toy car)

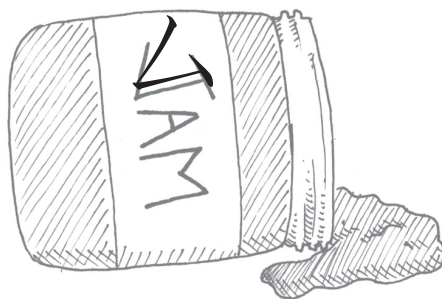
		ニ	カ	ー
--	--	---	---	---

4. **mi** i ra (mummy; from Portuguese)

		イ	ラ
--	--	---	---



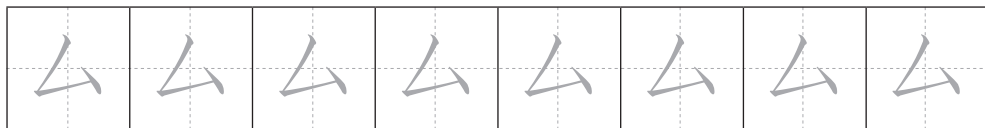
“mu” as in moo



I love jamu (jam)!

Writing Tip “mu” has two strokes and both are stops.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **chi i mu** (team)

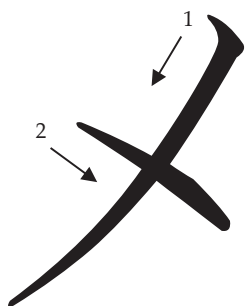
チ	ー		
---	---	--	--

2. **ha mu su tā** (hamster)

ハ		ス	タ	ー
---	--	---	---	---

3. **hō mu su te i** (home stay)

ホ	ー		ス	テ	イ
---	---	--	---	---	---



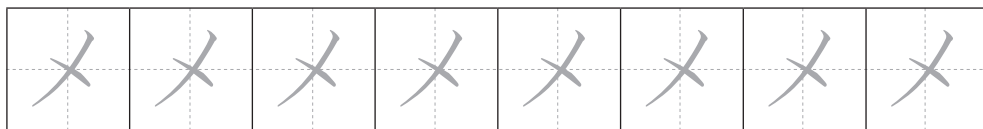
“me” as in Mexico

Mexico

the “X” in Mexico

Writing Tip “me” has two strokes: 1) a brush and 2) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **me ki shi ko** (Mexico)

	キ	シ	コ

2. **mē to ru** (meter)

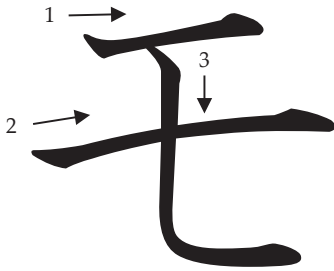
	ー	ト	ル

3. **a ni me** (Japanese cartoons)

ア	ニ		

4. **me mo** (memo; notes)

	モ		



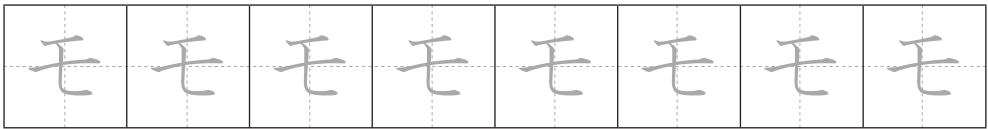
“mo” as in more



Hiragana “mo” and katakana “mo” look a bit alike. Note that stroke #3 does not go through stroke #1.

Writing Tip “mo” has three strokes and they are all stops.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. sā mo n (salmon – fish)

サ	一		ン
---	---	--	---

2. shi na mo n (cinnamon)

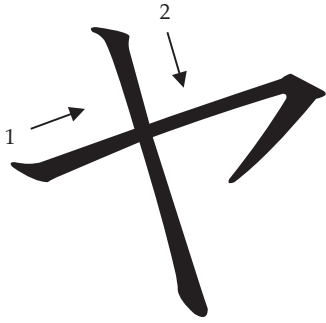
シ	ナ		ン
---	---	--	---

3. mo ni tā (monitor)

	ニ	タ	一
--	---	---	---

4. mō ru (mall)

	一	ル
--	---	---



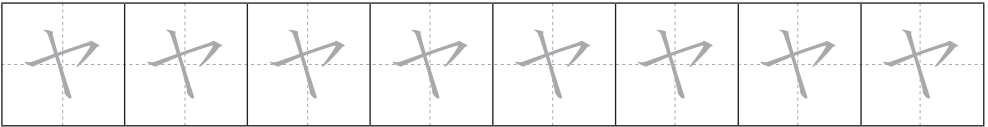
“ya” as in yarn



Katakana “ya” and hiragana “ya”
look a bit alike.

Writing Tip “ya” has two strokes: 1) a brush and 2) stop.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. ta i ya (tire)

タ	イ		
---	---	--	--

2. i ya ho n (earphones)

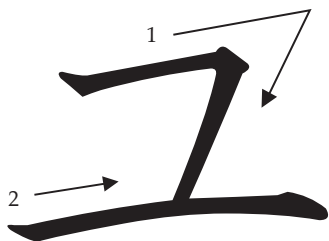
イ		ホ	ン
---	--	---	---

3. da i ya (diamond)

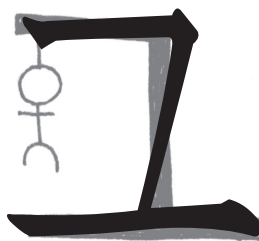
ダ	イ		
---	---	--	--

4. ya fū (Yahoo – company)

	フ	ー	
--	---	---	--



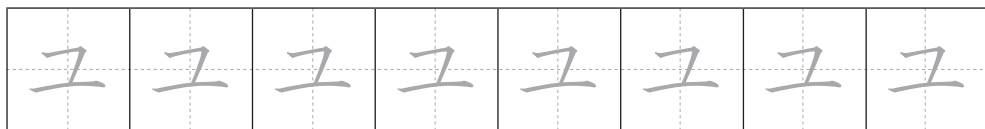
“yu” as in you



You won the “hangman” game!

Writing Tip “yu” has two strokes and both are stops.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. yū tā n (u-turn)

	一	タ	一	ン
--	---	---	---	---

2. yū ro (Euro)

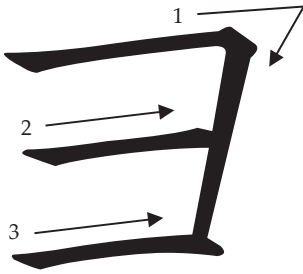
	一	ロ
--	---	---

3. yū mo a (humor)

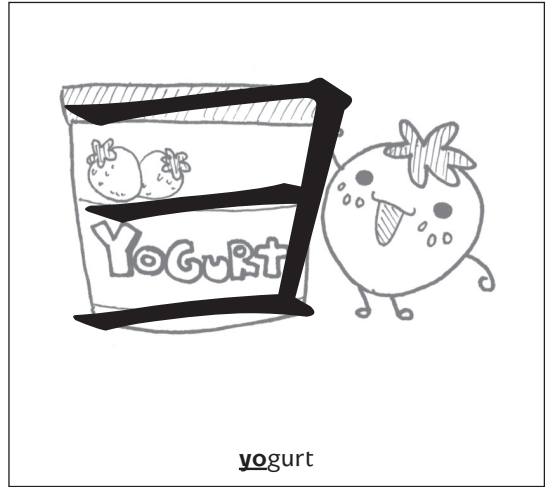
	一	モ	ア
--	---	---	---

4. yū zā (user)

	一	ザ	一
--	---	---	---

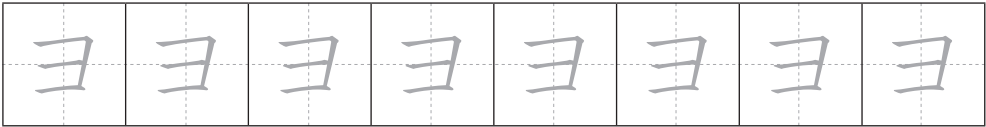


“yo” as in yogurt



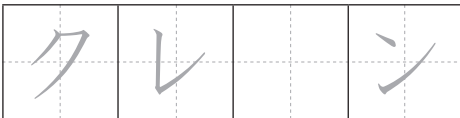
Writing Tip “yo” has three strokes and they are all stops.

Trace these characters.

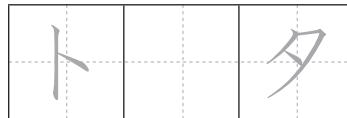


Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

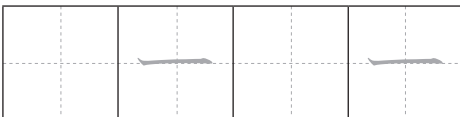
1. **ku re yo n** (crayon)



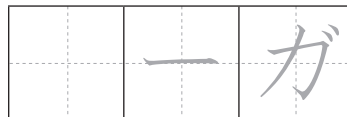
2. **to yo ta** (Toyota – company)

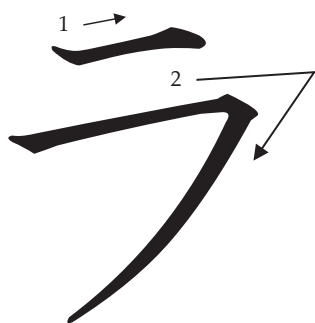


3. **yō yō** (yo-yo)

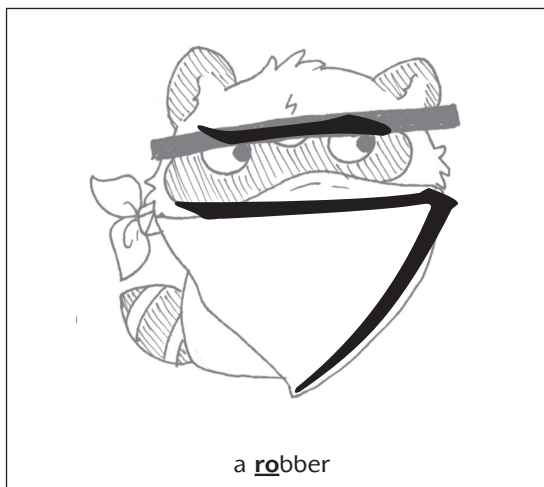


4. **yō ga** (yoga)



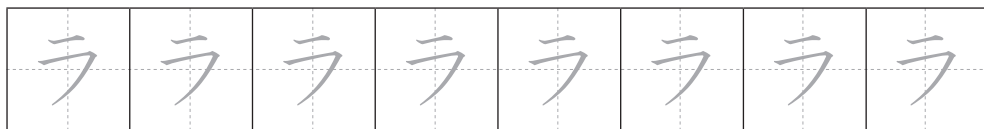


“ra” as in robber



Writing Tip “ra” has two strokes: 1) a stop and 2) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. ka me ra (camera)

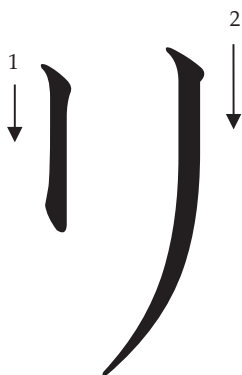
カ	メ		
---	---	--	--

2. ku ra su (school class)

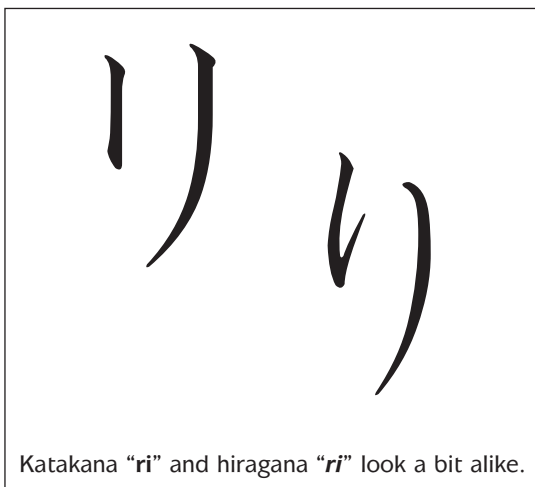
ク		ス
---	--	---

3. hō mu ra n (homerun)

ホ	ー	ム		ン
---	---	---	--	---



“ri” as in ring



Katakana “ri” and hiragana “ri” look a bit alike.

Writing Tip “ri” has two strokes: 1) a stop and 2) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. a fu ri ka (Africa)

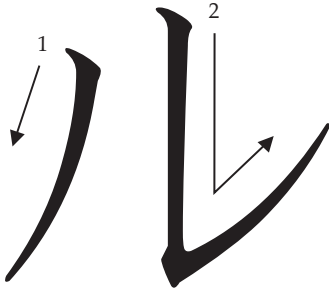
ア	フ		カ
---	---	--	---

2. i ta ri a (Italy)

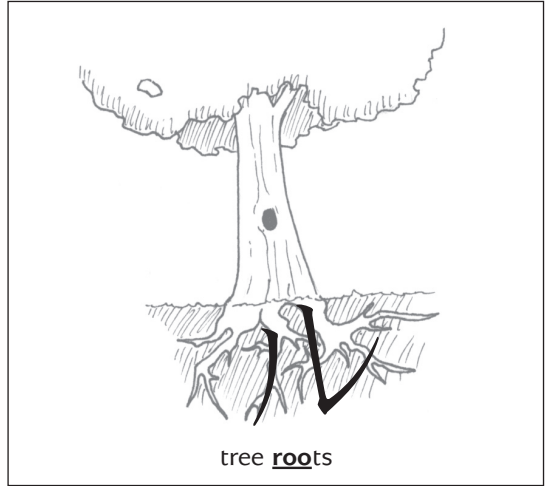
イ	タ		ア
---	---	--	---

3. a i su ku ri i mu (ice cream)

ア	イ	ス	ク		ー	ム
---	---	---	---	--	---	---

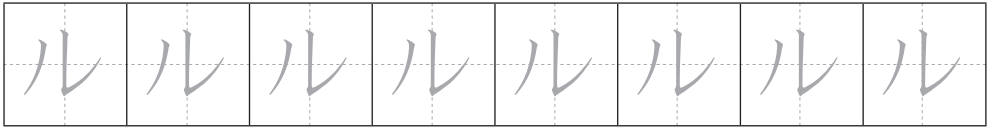


"ru" as in roots



Writing Tip "ru" has two strokes and both are brushes.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. ho te ru (hotel)

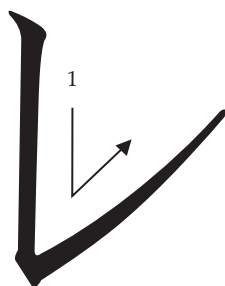
ホ	テ		
---	---	--	--

2. mi ru ku ((cow's) milk)

ミ			ク
---	--	--	---

3. a ru mi ho i ru (aluminum foil)

ア			ミ	ホ	イ		
---	--	--	---	---	---	--	--



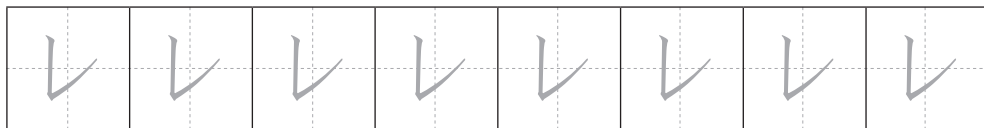
“re” as in rain



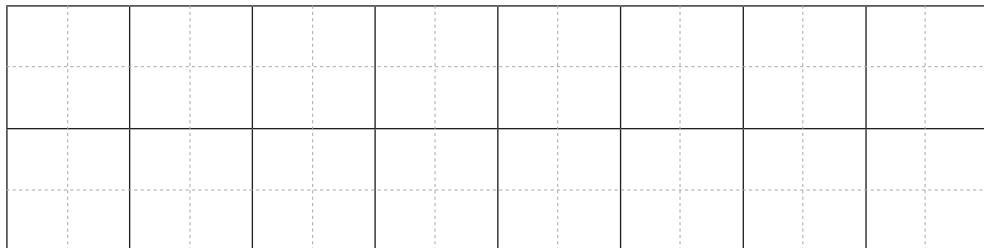
splashing raindrops

Writing Tip “re” has one stroke: a brush.

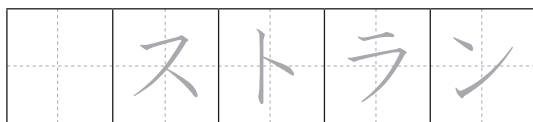
Trace these characters.



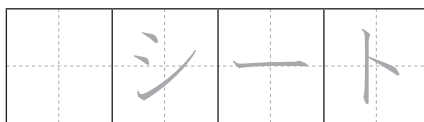
Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.



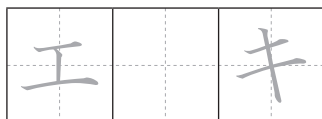
1. re su to ra n (restaurant)



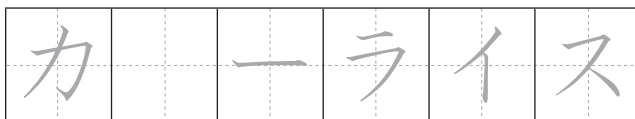
2. re shi i to (receipt)

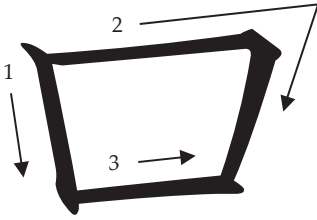


3. e re ki (electric guitar)

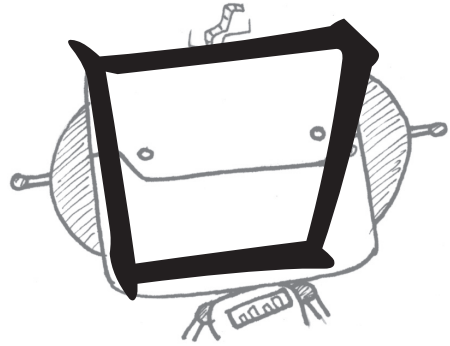


4. ka rē ra i su (curry rice)





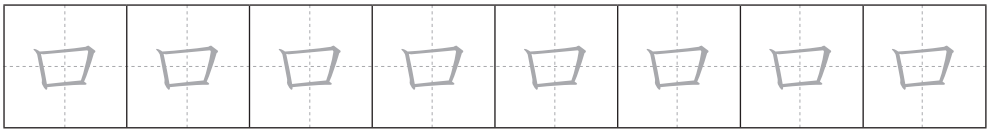
“ro” as in robot



a robot

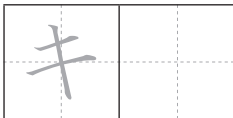
Writing Tip “ro” has three strokes and all three are stops.

Trace these characters.

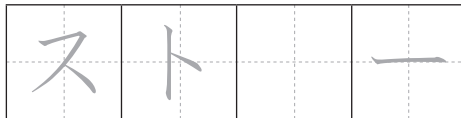


Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

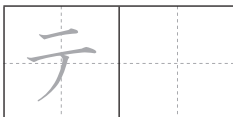
1. **ki ro** (kilogram; kilometer)



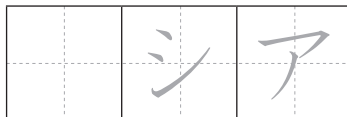
2. **su to rō** (drinking straw)

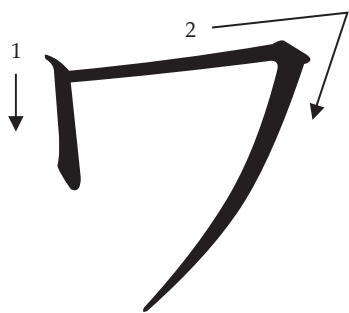


3. **te ro** (terrorism)



4. **ro shi a** (Russia)



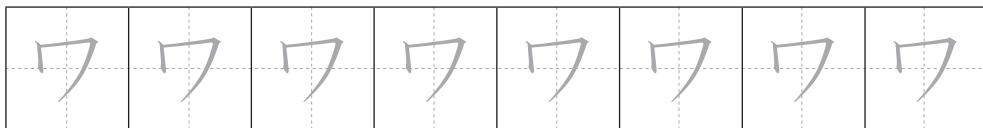


“wa” as in water



Writing Tip “wa” has two strokes: 1) a stop and 2) brush.

Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. ha wa i (Hawaii)

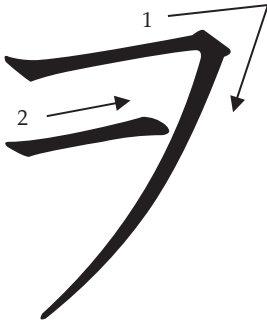
ハ			イ
---	--	--	---

2. wa i ya re su (wireless)

	イ	ヤ	レ	ス
--	---	---	---	---

3. wā ku shi i to (worksheet)

	ー	ク	シ	ー	ト
--	---	---	---	---	---

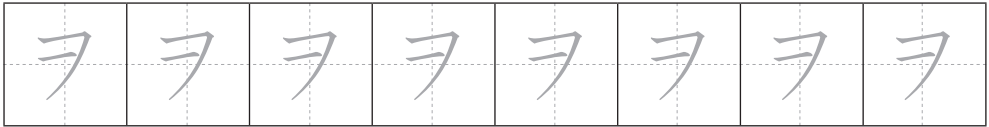


“o” as in oak
(same pronunciation as オ)



Writing Tip “o” has two strokes: 1) a brush and 2) stop.

Trace these characters.

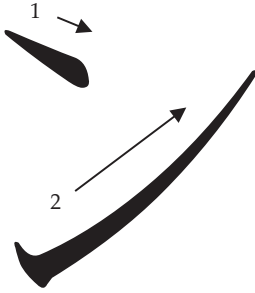


Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

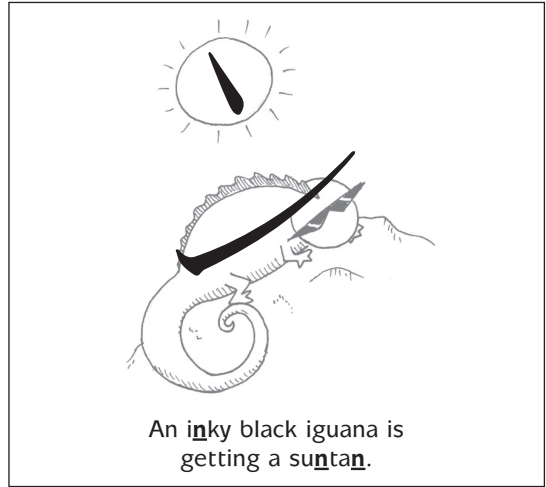
As a grammatical object marker, ヲ “o” is rarely used to write sentences, except in telegrams and some video games. Trace the light gray characters and write the character by yourself.

su tā to bo ta n o o shi te ku da sa i (Push the start button.)

ス	タ	ー	ト	ボ	タ	ン	
オ	シ	テ	ク	ダ	サ	イ	。

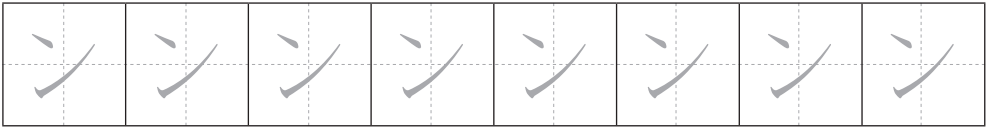


“n” as in ink
(pronounced by touching the back of the tongue to the roof of the mouth)



An inky black iguana is getting a suntan.

Writing Tip “n” has two strokes: 1) a stop and 2) brush. (Note: “n” and “so” look similar. A big difference is that “n” is written more from left to right, and “so” is written more from top to bottom.) Trace these characters.



Write the character in the boxes below, and then circle the one you think is best.

1. **me ro n** (melon)

メ	ロ		
---	---	--	--

2. **ma ra so n** (any running race)

マ	ラ	ソ	
---	---	---	--

3. **rā me n** (ramen noodles)

ラ	ー	メ	
---	---	---	--

4. **mi shi n** (sewing machine)

ミ	シ		
---	---	--	--

READING PRACTICE 3: マ～ン

You should be able to read the words below now. Cover the right hand side of the page so you can only see the katakana words on the left. Try reading them aloud, and then check with the romaji on the right hand side. Keep practicing until you can read them all. For an extra challenge try saying the English words before you check.

ト	マ	ト							to ma to (tomato)
マ	イ	ク							ma i ku (microphone)
ミ	キ	サ	ー						mi ki sā (blender)
チ	ー	ム							chi i mu (team)
ホ	ー	ム	ス	テ	イ				hō mu su te i (home stay)
ア	ニ	メ							a ni me (Japanese cartoons)
シ	ナ	モ	ン						shi na mo n (cinnamon)
モ	ニ	タ	ー						mo ni tā (monitor)
タ	イ	ヤ							ta i ya (tire)
イ	ヤ	ホ	ン						i ya ho n (earphones)
ユ	ー	モ	ア						yū mo a (humor)
ク	レ	ヨ	ン						ku re yo n (crayon)
ヨ	ー	ヨ	ー						yō yō (yo-yo)
カ	メ	ラ							ka me ra (camera)
ク	ラ	ス							ku ra su (school class)
ア	イ	ス	ク	リ	ー	ム			a i su ku ri i mu (ice cream)
ホ	テ	ル							ho te ru (hotel)
ミ	ル	ク							mi ru ku (cow's milk)
レ	ス	ト	ラ	ン					re su to ran (restaurant)
レ	シ	ー	ト						re shi i to (receipt)
ス	ト	ロ	ー						su to rō (drinking straw)
キ	ロ								ki ro (kilogram; kilometer)
ワ	ー	ク	シ	ー	ト				wā ku shi i to (worksheet)
ワ	イ	ヤ	レ	ス					wa i ya re su (wireless)
メ	ロ	ン							me ro n (melon)
ラ	ー	メ	ン						rā me n (ramen noodles)
ミ	シ	ン							mi shi n (sewing machine)
マ	ラ	ソ	ン						ma ra so n (any running race)

Romaji pronunciation guide:

a as in father

i as in easy

u as in you

e as in red

o as in oak

SECTION FIVE

Katakana Usage Rules



Katakana has a few basic rules to keep in mind. This section introduces the four katakana rules with simple explanations and many useful example words. Pay close attention to these example words; they will illustrate the rules and make them easier to understand and remember.

Although some of the rules are the same as hiragana, katakana has different uses than hiragana so its rules are a bit different too. First, the hiragana rule for changing the pronunciation of は, へ, and を when using them as grammatical particles does not apply to katakana since katakana characters are not used as particles (except in telegraphs, video games, and so on). Second, instead of the complicated rule for making long vowels in hiragana, you simply add a long dash ー called a **chōon** (long vowel) mark in katakana. For example, “cake” is written ケーキ (**kē ki**) with a **chōon** mark after the ケ (**ke**).

Katakana has one new rule that describes how to make 33 additional syllables for writing foreign words (see Rule 4). As you master the four rules of katakana usage you will be able to write any katakana word you like. After this chapter all you will need is practice, and you will be a proficient reader and writer of katakana.

RULE 1 TENTEN (`) AND MARU (°)

The first katakana rule describes how certain characters change pronunciations when the marks called **tenten** (`) and **maru** (°) are added to them. There are 18 characters that take the tenten (`) mark, and there are 5 characters that take the **maru** (°) mark. The chart below summarizes the changes when these marks are added.

23 Tenten and Maru Characters

ga ガ	gi キ	gu グ	ge ゲ	go ゴ
za ザ	ji ジ	zu ズ	ze ゼ	zo ゾ
da タ			de テ	do ド
ba バ	bi ヒ	bu ブ	be ヘ	bo ボ
pa パ	pi ピ	pu プ	pe ペ	po ポ

Trace the gray characters and marks, and try writing them on your own in the blank boxes.

ガ ga	ガ	ガ					
ギ gi	ギ	ギ					
グ gu	グ	グ					
ゲ ge	ゲ	ゲ					
ゴ go	ゴ	ゴ					

1. ga mu (gum)

	ム
--	---

2. ga so ri n (gasoline)

	ソ	リ	ン
--	---	---	---

3. a re ru gi i (allergy)

ア	レ	ル		ー
---	---	---	--	---

4. gi tā (guitar)

	タ	ー
--	---	---

5. sa n gu ra su (sunglasses)

サ	ン		ラ	ス
---	---	--	---	---

6. gu rē (grey)

	レ	ー
--	---	---

7. gē mu (game)

	ー	ム
--	---	---

8. re ge e (Reggae)

レ		エ
---	--	---

9. *ke shi* go mu* (eraser)

け	し		ム
---	---	--	---

*hiragana

10. *go ru fu* (golf)

	ル	フ
--	---	---

ザ za	ザ	ザ					
ジ ji	ジ	ジ					
ズ zu	ズ	ズ					
ゼ ze	ゼ	ゼ					
ゾ zo	ゾ	ゾ					

11. *ra za ni a* (lasagna)

ラ		ニ	ア
---	--	---	---

12. *rē zā* (laser)

レ	ー		ー
---	---	--	---

13. *o re n ji* (orange)

オ	レ	ン	
---	---	---	--

14. *ra ji o* (radio)

ラ		オ
---	--	---

15. *chi i zu* (cheese)

チ	ー	
---	---	--

16. *ji i n zu* (jeans)

ジ	ー	ン
---	---	---

17. gā ze (gauze)

ガ	ー		
---	---	--	--

18. zero (zero)

		ロ
--	--	---

19. ze mi (seminar)

		ミ
--	--	---

20. ri zō to (resort)

リ		ー	ト
---	--	---	---

21. a ma zo n (Amazon)

ア	マ		ン
---	---	--	---

ダ	ダ	ダ					
da							
デ	デ	デ					
de							
ド	ド	ド					
do							

22. dō na tsu (doughnuts)

	ー	ナ	ツ
--	---	---	---

23. o ra n da (Holland)

オ	ラ	ン	
---	---	---	--

24. sa ra da (salad)

サ	ラ		
---	---	--	--

25. do a (door)

	ア
--	---

26. de zā to (dessert)

	ザ	ー	ト
--	---	---	---

27. de za i n (design)

	ザ	イ	ン
--	---	---	---

バ ba	バ	バ						
ビ bi	ビ	ビ						
ブ bu	ブ	ブ						
ベ be	ベ	ベ						
ボ bo	ボ	ボ						

28. **te re bi** (TV; television)

テ	レ		
---	---	--	--

29. **ba su** (bus)

	ス
--	---

30. **ha n bā gā** (hamburger)

ハ	ン		ー	ガ	ー
---	---	--	---	---	---

31. **be ru to** (belt)

	ル	ト
--	---	---

32. **zu bo n** (pants; trousers)

ズ		ン
---	--	---

33. **ki i bō do** (keyboard)

キ	ー		ー	ド
---	---	--	---	---

34. bu ra ji ru (Brazil)

		ラ	ジ	ル
--	--	---	---	---

35. tē bu ru (table)

テ	ー		ル
---	---	--	---

36. i be n to (event)

イ		ン	ト
---	--	---	---

37. ko n bi ni (convenience store)

コ	ン		ニ
---	---	--	---

ハ pa	ハ	ハ					
ピ pi	ピ	ピ					
プ pu	プ	プ					
ヘ pe	ヘ	ヘ					
ホ po	ホ	ホ					

38. de pā to (department store)

デ		ー	ト
---	--	---	---

39. pa su ta (pasta)

	ス	タ
--	---	---

40. pi za (pizza)

	ザ
--	---

41. pi a no (piano)

	ア	ノ
--	---	---

42. pu ro (professional)

	ロ
--	---

43. pū ru (pool)

		ー	ル
--	--	---	---

44. pu re ze n to (present)

		レ	ゼ	ン	ト
--	--	---	---	---	---

45. su pe i n (Spain)

ス			イ	ン
---	--	--	---	---

46. pe n gi n (penguin)

		ン	ギ	ン
--	--	---	---	---

47. su pō tsu (sports)

ス			ー	ツ
---	--	--	---	---

48. re pō to (report)

レ			ー	ト
---	--	--	---	---

READING PRACTICE 4: TENTEN AND MARU

You should be able to read the words below now. Try covering the answers on the right hand side and reading the katakana words on the left. Try to guess the English meaning of each word before looking at the answers.

ガ	ム			
ギ	タ	ー		
サ	ン	グ	ラ	ス
ゲ	ー	ム		
ゴ	ル	フ		
ラ	ザ	ニ	ア	
チ	ー	ズ		
ゼ	ロ			
リ	ゾ	ー	ト	
サ	ラ	ダ		
デ	ザ	ー	ト	
ド	ア			
バ	ス			
テ	レ	ビ		
テ	ー	ブ	ル	
ベ	ル	ト		
キ	ー	ボ	ー	ド
パ	ス	タ		
ピ	ア	ノ		
プ	ー	ル		
ス	ペ	イ	ン	
ス	ポ	ー	ツ	

ga mu (gum)
 gi tā (guitar)
 sa n gu ra su (sunglasses)
 gē mu (game)
 go ru fu (golf)
 ra za ni a (lasagna)
 chi i zu (cheese)
 ze ro (zero)
 ri zō to (resort)
 sa ra da (salad)
 de zā to (dessert)
 do a (door)
 ba su (bus)
 te re bi (TV; television)
 tē bu ru (table)
 be ru to (belt)
 ki i bō do (keyboard)
 pa su ta (pasta)
 pi a no (piano)
 pū ru (pool)
 su pe i n (Spain)
 su pō tsu (sports)

RULE 2 COMBINED CHARACTERS

There are three special katakana characters that are used extensively in combination with 11 consonants to form 33 additional sounds. When combined in this way “ya,” “yu” and “yo” are written in half-size characters at the bottom left corner, as in the examples below. The chart below illustrates these 33 blended sounds, called *yō'on*.

33 Combined Characters

kya キャ	kyu キュ	kyo キョ	gya ギャ	gyu ギュ	gyo ギョ
sha シャ	shu シュ	sho ショ	ja ジャ	ju ジュ	jo ジョ
cha チャ	chu チュ	cho チョ			
nya ニャ	nyu ニュ	nyo ニョ			
hya ヒャ	hyu ヒュ	hyo ヒョ			
			bya ビャ	byu ビュ	byo ビョ
mya ミャ	myu ミュ	myo ミョ	pya ピャ	pyu ピュ	pyo ピョ
rya リャ	ryu リュ	ryo リョ			

Trace the light gray characters, and then try to complete the example words with the correct combined characters.

kya

キ	ヤ	
---	---	--

kyu

キ	ユ	
---	---	--

kyo*

キ	ョ	
---	---	--

*kyo キョ is only used in less common words, which are not included here.

1. kya n pu (camp)

		ン	プ
--	--	---	---

2. su kya nā (scanner)

ス			ナ	ー
---	--	--	---	---

3. bā be kyū (barbecue)

バ	ー	ベ			ー
---	---	---	--	--	---

gya

ギ	ャ
---	---

gyu

ギ	ュ
---	---

gyo

ギ	ョ
---	---

4. gya ra ri i (gallery)

		ラ	リ	ー
--	--	---	---	---

5. gya n bu ru (to gamble; gambling)

		ン	ブ	ル
--	--	---	---	---

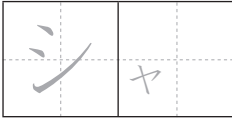
6. re gyu rā (regular (gasoline))

レ			ラ	ー
---	--	--	---	---

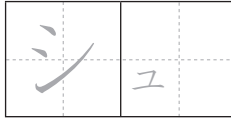
7. gyō za (pot stickers)

		ー	ザ
--	--	---	---

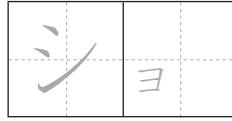
sha



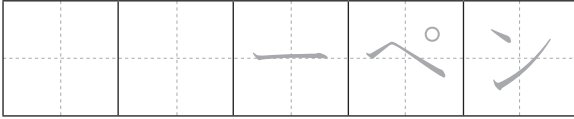
shu



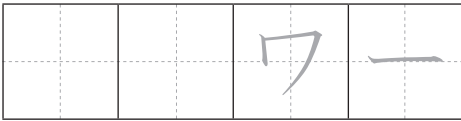
sho



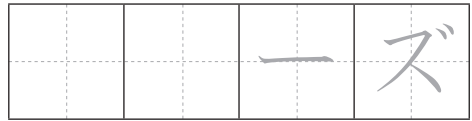
8. shā pe n (mechanical pencil (sharp + pencil))



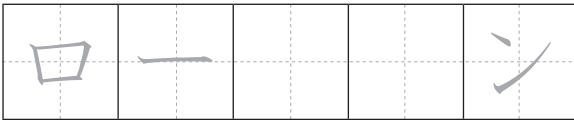
9. sha wā (shower)



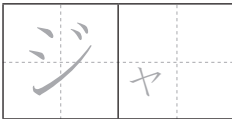
10. shū zu (shoes)



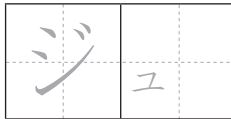
11. rō sho n (lotion)



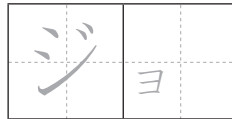
ja



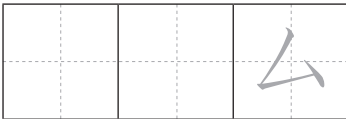
ju



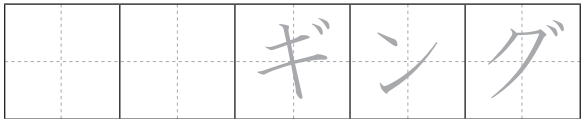
jo



12. ja mu (jam)



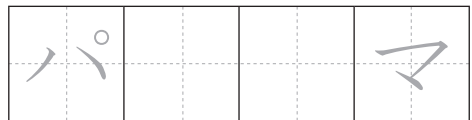
13. jo gi n gu (jogging)



14. jū su (juice)



15. pa ja ma (pajama)



cha

チ	ャ		
---	---	--	--

chu

チ	ユ		
---	---	--	--

cho

チ	ヨ		
---	---	--	--

16. cha n ne ru (channel)

		ン	ネ	ル
--	--	---	---	---

17. shi chū (stew)

シ			ー
---	--	--	---

18. cho ko rē to (chocolate)

		コ	レ	ー	ト
--	--	---	---	---	---

19. chō ku (chalk)

		ー	ク
--	--	---	---

nya*

ニ	ャ		
---	---	--	--

nyu

ニ	ユ		
---	---	--	--

nyo*

ニ	ヨ		
---	---	--	--

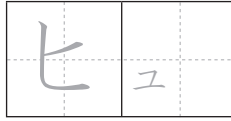
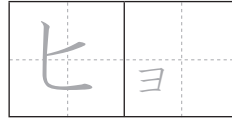
*nya ニャ and nyo ニヨ are only used in less common words, which are not included here.

20. me nyū (menu)

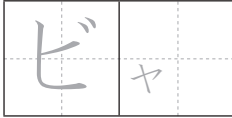
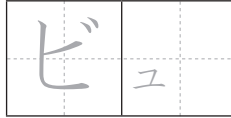
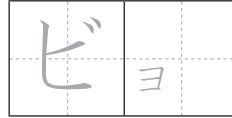
メ			ー
---	--	--	---

21. nyū su (news)

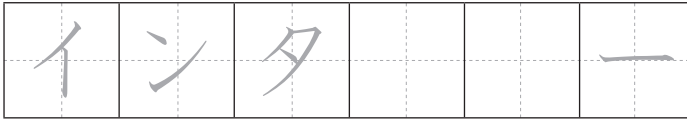
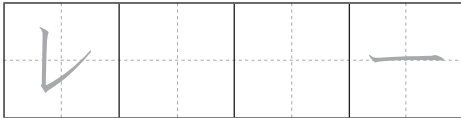
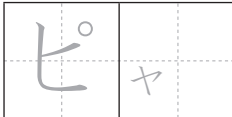
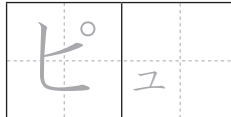
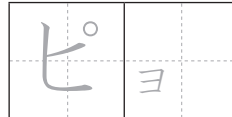
		ー	ス
--	--	---	---

hya***hyu*****hyo***

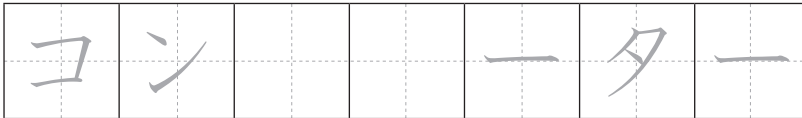
*These character combinations are only used in less common words, which are not included here.

bya***byu****byo***

***bya** ビャ and **byo** ビョ are only used in less common words, which are not included here.

22. i n ta byū (interview)**23. re byū (review)****pya*****pyu****pyo***

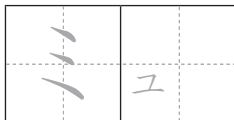
***pya** ピャ and **pyo** ピョ are only used in less common words, which are not included here.

24. ko n pyū tā (computer)**25. pyū ma (puma)**

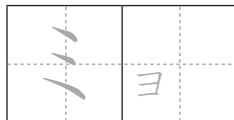
mya*



myu

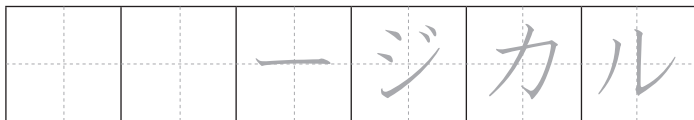


myo*



*mya ミヤ and myo ミヨ are only used in less common words, which are not included here.

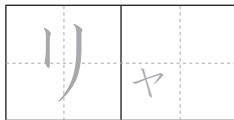
26. myū ji ka ru (musical)



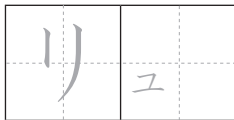
27. myū to (mute – volume)



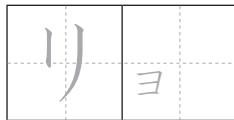
rya*



ryu

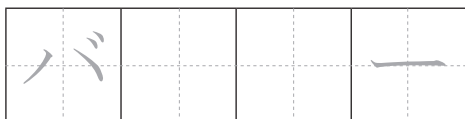


ryo*



*rya リヤ and ryo リヨ are only used in less common words, which are not included here.

28. ba ryū (value)



29. bo ryū mu (volume)



READING PRACTICE 5: COMBINED CHARACTERS

You should be able to read the words below now. Try covering the answers on the right hand side and reading the katakana words on the left. Try to guess the English meaning of each word before looking at the answers.

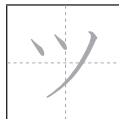
キ	ャ	ン	ブ		
ス	キ	ャ	ナ	ー	
バ	ー	ベ	キ	ユ	ー
ギ	ャ	ラ	リ	ー	
レ	ギ	ユ	ラ	ー	
ギ	ョ	ー	ザ		
シ	ャ	ワ	ー		
シ	ユ	ー	ズ		
ロ	ー	シ	ョ	ン	
ジ	ャ	ム			
ジ	ャ	ズ			
ジ	ユ	ー	ス		
ジ	ョ	ギ	ン	グ	
チ	ャ	ン	ネ	ル	
シ	チ	ユ	ー		
チ	ョ	コ	レ	ー	ト
チ	ョ	ー	ク		
メ	ニ	ユ	ー		
ニ	ユ	ー	ス		
イ	ン	タ	ビ	ユ	ー
コ	ン	ピ	ユ	ー	タ
ミ	ユ	ー	ジ	カ	ル
バ	リ	ユ	ー		

kya n pu (to camp; camping)
su kya nā (scanner)
bā be kyū (barbecue)
gya ra ri i (gallery)
re gyu rā (regular)
gyō za (pot stickers)
sha wā (shower)
shū zu (shoes)
rō sho n (lotion)
ja mu (jam)
ja zu (jazz)
jū su (juice)
jo gi n gu (jogging)
cha n ne ru (channel)
shi chū (stew)
cho ko rē to (chocolate)
chō ku (chalk)
me nyū (menu)
nyū su (news)
i n ta byū (interview)
ko n pyū tā (computer)
myū ji ka ru (musical)
ba ryū (value)

RULE 3 SMALL “TSU” (ッ)

A small “tsu” (ッ) is pronounced as a short, silent pause. In romaji it is usually indicated by doubling the following consonant (see examples below). Small “tsu” is written in the bottom left hand corner, like small “ya,” “yu” and “yo.” Complete the example words by tracing the light gray characters and writing a small “tsu” in the appropriate area of the blank boxes.

Example of
regular-sized “tsu”



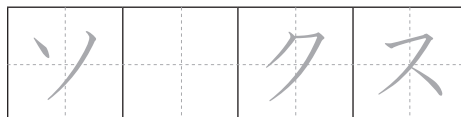
Example of
small “tsu”



1. **ba ggu** (bag)



2. **so kku su** (socks)



3. pi ku ni kku (picnic)

ピ	ク	ニ		ク
---	---	---	--	---

4. sa kkā (soccer)

サ		カ	ー
---	--	---	---

5. sa n do i cchi (sandwich)

サ	ン	ド	イ		チ
---	---	---	---	--	---

6. ki cchi n (kitchen)

キ		チ	ン
---	--	---	---

7. ho tto do ggu (hotdog)

ホ		ト	ド		グ
---	--	---	---	--	---

8. chi ke tto (ticket)

チ	ケ		ト
---	---	--	---

9. pa i na ppu ru (pineapple)

パ	イ	ナ		プ	ル
---	---	---	--	---	---

10. ka ppu (cup)

カ		プ
---	--	---

READING PRACTICE 6: SMALL “tsu” (ツ)

You should be able to read the words below now. Try covering the answers on the right hand side and reading the katakana words on the left. Remember that a small “tsu” ツ is read as a short, silent pause. Try to guess the English meaning of each word before looking at the answers.

ジ ャ ケ ツ ト
 バ ッ グ
 サ ン ド イ ツ チ
 カ ッ プ
 コ ッ プ
 キ ッ チ ン
 ベ ッ ド
 ク ロ ー ゼ ツ ト
 カ セ ッ ト テ ー プ
 ペ ッ ト
 サ ッ カ ー
 ク リ ッ プ
 ス ケ ッ チ
 キ ッ ト
 セ ッ ト
 ダ イ エ ツ ト
 ポ テ ト チ ッ プ
 ク ラ シ ッ ク
 コ ッ ク
 ロ ッ カ ー
 ネ ッ ク レ ス
 キ ャ ッ チ ボ ー ル
 ブ レ ー ス レ ツ ト

ja ke tto (jacket)
 ba ggu (bag)
 san n do i cchi (sandwich)
 ka ppu (cup)
 ko ppu (drinking glass)
 ki cchi n (kitchen)
 be ddo (bed)
 ku rō ze tto (closet)
 ka se tto tē pu (cassette tape)
 pe tto (pet)
 sa kkā (soccer)
 ku ri ppu (paper clip)
 su ke cchi (sketch)
 ki tto (kit)
 se tto (set)
 da i e tto (diet)
 po te to chi ppu (potato chips)
 ku ra shi kku (classic)
 ko kku (cook)
 ro kkā (locker)
 ne kku re su (necklace)
 kya cchi bō ru (playing catch)
 bu rē su re tto (bracelet)

RULE 4 ADDITIONAL COMBINED CHARACTERS

As Japan has become more international, the need to better approximate the foreign names and words from various countries around the world has increased. In 1991 the Japanese government adopted an official list of 32 additional character combinations, and one new character “vu” ヴ, for the express purpose of writing foreign words. It also clarified that other additional combinations, as needed, may be used.

You may occasionally see new character combinations as you read books, magazines and web pages. Don't be alarmed, all character combinations follow the same basic principles of pronunciation: the first character indicates the initial sound and it combines with the whole sound of the second character. For example, トウ takes the initial sound “t” and the final sound “u” to make “tu.” Since many of the new character combinations are used to write words of foreign languages other than English, and because these words are uncommon in Japanese, the character combination will be introduced, but the unusual examples will not.

ye*

イ	エ
---	---

*ye イエ is only used in less common words, which are not included here.

wi

ウ	イ
---	---

1. ha ro wi i n (Halloween)

ハ	ロ				ー	ン
---	---	--	--	--	---	---

we

ウ	エ
---	---

2. we bu (world wide web)

			ブ
--	--	--	---

3. ku wē to (Kuwait)

ク			ー	ト
---	--	--	---	---

wo

ウ	オ
---	---

4. su to ppu wo cchi (stopwatch)

ス	ト	ッ	プ			ッ	チ
---	---	---	---	--	--	---	---

va

ヴ	ァ
---	---

5. va i o ri n (violin, also written バイオリン ba i o ri n)

		イ	オ	リ	ン
--	--	---	---	---	---

vi

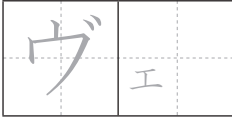
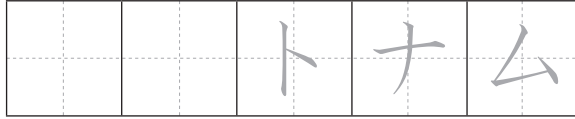
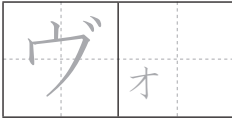
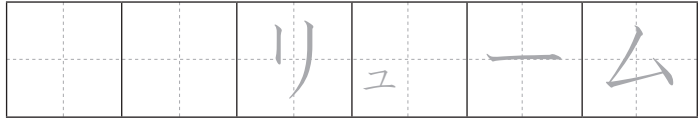
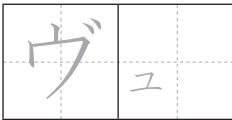
ヴ	イ
---	---

6. vi sa (visa, also ビサ bi sa)

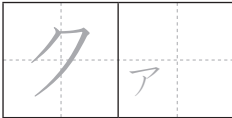
		サ
--	--	---

vu*

***vu** ヴ is only used in less common words, which are not included here. Perhaps the main purpose of **vu** ヴ is writing the additional character combinations **va** ヴァ, **vi** ヴィ, **ve** ヴェ, **vo** ヴォ.

ve7. **ve to na mu** (vietnam)**vo**8. **vo ryū mu** (volume, also written ボリューム **bo ryū mu**)**vyu***

***vyu** ヴュ is only used in less common words, which are not included here.

kwa*

***kwa** クァ is only used in less common words, which are not included here.

kwi*

***kwi** クィ is only used in less common words, which are not included here.

kwe*

***kwe** クェ is only used in less common words, which are not included here.

kwo

ク	オ
---	---

9. kwō tē sho n mā ku (quotation marks)

		一	テ	一	シ	ヨ	ン
マ	一	ク					

gwa*

グ	ア
---	---

*gwa グア is only used in less common words, which are not included here.

she

シ	エ
---	---

10. she fu (chef)

			フ
--	--	--	---

11. shē bā (electric shaver)

		一	ハ	一
--	--	---	---	---

je

ジ	エ
---	---

12. je tto ki* (jet airliner)

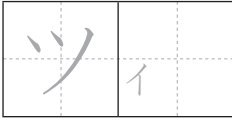
		ツ	ト	キ
--	--	---	---	---

*ki would be written in kanji.

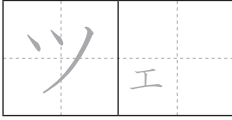
tsa*

ツ	ア
---	---

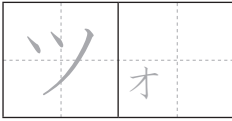
*tsa ツア is only used in less common words, which are not included here.

tsi*

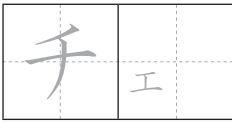
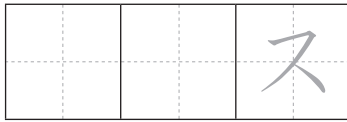
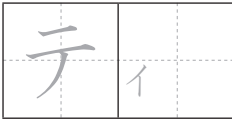
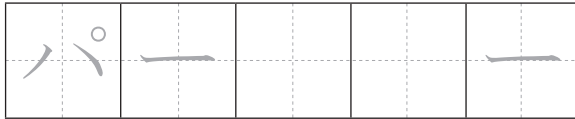
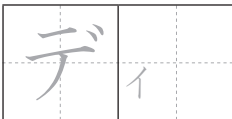
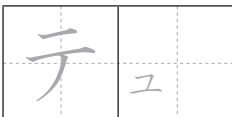
***tsi** ツイ is only used in less common words, which are not included here.

tse*

***tse** ツエ is only used in less common words, which are not included here.

tso*

***tso** ツオ is only used in less common words, which are not included here.

che13. **che su** (chess)14. **che kku** (check; to check)**ti**15. **pā ti i** (party)**di**16. **kya n di i** (candy)**tyu***

***tyu** テュ is only used in less common words, which are not included here.

dyu

デ	ュ	
---	---	--

17. dyu e tto (duet)

		エ	ツ	ト
--	--	---	---	---

tu

ト	ウ	
---	---	--

18. ta tū (tattoo)

タ			ー
---	--	--	---

du*

ド	ウ	
---	---	--

*du ドウ is only used in less common words, which are not included here.

fa

フ	ァ	
---	---	--

19. so fa (sofa)

ソ		
---	--	--

20. fa kku su (fax)

		ッ	ク	ス
--	--	---	---	---

fi

フ	ィ	
---	---	--

21. sā fi n (to surf; surfing)

サ	ー			ン
---	---	--	--	---

22. fi ru mu (film)

		ル	ム
--	--	---	---

fe

フ	エ	
---	---	--

23. ka fe (café)

カ		
---	--	--

24. ka fe te ri a (cafeteria)

カ				テ	リ	ア
---	--	--	--	---	---	---

fo

フ	オ	
---	---	--

25. fo ru dā (folder)

			ル	ダ	ー
--	--	--	---	---	---

26. fō ku (fork)

			ー	ク
--	--	--	---	---

fyu*

フ	ユ	
---	---	--

*fyu フュ is only used in less common words, which are not included here.

READING PRACTICE 7: ADDITIONAL COMBINED CHARACTERS

You should be able to read the words below now. Try covering the answers on the right hand side and reading the katakana words on the left. Try to guess the English meaning of each word before looking at the answers.

ハロ ウ イ ー ン
 ウ エ ブ
 ウ オ ー ク マ ン
 ヴ ァ イ オ リ ン
 ヴ ィ サ
 ヴ ェ ト ナ ム
 ク オ ー テ ー シ ョ ン マ ー ク

スト ッ プ ウ オ ッ チ
 タ ト ウ ー
 シ エ フ
 ジ エ ッ ト コ ー ス タ ー
 チ エ ス
 ス パ ゲ ッ テ イ
 テ イ ッ シ ユ
 シ ー デ イ ー
 デ ユ エ ッ ト
 ソ フ ァ
 サ ー フ ィ ン
 カ フ ェ テ リ ア
 フ ォ ル ダ ー
 フ ォ ー ク

ha ro wi i n (Halloween)
we bu (world wide web)
wō ku ma n (Walkman)
va i o ri n (violin)
vi sa (visa)
ve to na mu (Vietnam)
kwō te sho n mā ku
 (quotation marks)
su to ppu wo cchi (stopwatch)
ta tū (tattoo)
she fu (chef)
je tto kō su tā (rollercoaster)
che su (chess)
su pa ge tti (spaghetti)
ti sshu (tissue)
shi i di i (CD)
du e tto (duet)
so fa (sofa)
sā fi n (to surf; surfing)
ka fe te ri a (cafeteria)
fo ru dā (folder)
fō ku (fork)

SECTION SIX

Reading and Writing Practice



Commonly Mistaken Katakana

Commonly Mistaken Combined Characters

In My Home

Family Restaurant (Food, Part A)

Picnic Lunch (Food, Part B)

Computers and Technology

Sports and Athletics

Sound Symbolic Words

World Map: Africa

World Map: Asia and the Middle East

World Map: Europe

World Map: North and South America

World Map: Oceania

なまえ _____

Commonly Mistaken Katakana

Part A:

Circle the correct katakana character.

- a マ ワ ヤ ア ケ ヌ フ
1. ko ヒ コ ロ ヨ ク タ ワ
2. na ト ノ イ ネ キ ナ メ
3. nu タ ノ ナ ヌ メ ク ケ
4. su ヌ ネ ス ク タ メ ヲ
5. tsu シ ソ ン リ ツ サ ミ
6. so リ ン シ ツ サ メ ソ
7. te ニ テ チ メ ヲ ナ ミ
8. u ク ワ ヌ フ ラ ウ ヲ
9. ku ケ ヲ ク ウ タ ヲ ワ
10. ni テ ニ ユ ナ ヲ ミ ヨ
11. to ナ イ ノ リ テ オ ト
12. shi ツ ソ ン シ リ サ レ
13. chi テ オ チ イ ホ ナ ム
14. ke ケ ワ フ ク タ ヲ マ
15. sa リ シ ツ ン ソ サ ル
16. ka ヤ フ ラ カ タ ク ケ
17. ta タ ヌ ク ワ ヲ ラ メ

Time _____:

Part B:

Circle the correct katakana character.

- ho ハ オ モ ネ ホ サ ナ
1. no タ ク メ ノ ナ ソ ン
2. mu マ ヒ モ ス ワ ム フ
3. ri ソ リ ル シ ハ ン ホ
4. mo ヒ セ ニ ミ シ サ モ
5. ne フ ネ ラ ホ ハ ウ ラ
6. ha ル リ ハ ソ ホ ニ ム
7. yo コ ユ ヲ ラ ヨ ワ ニ
8. ro コ ヒ モ ロ ヨ ニ エ
9. ya ヤ カ マ メ ム メ ヌ
10. me ノ ナ メ ヌ タ ク ケ
11. hi エ セ ム ヨ コ モ ヒ
12. ru レ リ ル ハ ニ ノ ナ
13. ma ム ア ウ マ ヌ メ ク
14. mi ニ ミ ツ ン ソ キ シ
15. ra テ ラ ウ モ フ ワ ヲ
16. fu ク ワ ヲ ケ フ タ ナ
17. yu コ ヨ ラ ワ ニ ヲ ユ

Time _____:

なまえ _____

Commonly Mistaken Combined Characters

Part A:

Circle the correct combined character.

- | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|----|----|-----------|----|
| | ju | シュ | ジョ | <u>ジュ</u> | シヨ |
| 1. | gya | ギャ | キャ | ギユ | キュ |
| 2. | sha | シュ | シヨ | ジョ | シャ |
| 3. | nyo | ミヨ | ニヨ | ニャ | ミュ |
| 4. | myu | ミヨ | ニユ | ミュ | ミャ |
| 5. | jo | シヨ | ジュ | シュ | ジョ |
| 6. | pyu | ピャ | ピユ | ヒユ | ピョ |
| 7. | kyo | キャ | ギャ | キョ | ギョ |
| 8. | chu | チャ | チュ | シヨ | シュ |
| 9. | bya | ビャ | ヒャ | ピャ | ビュ |
| 10. | hya | ヒユ | ヒャ | ピャ | ビャ |
| 11. | ryo | リュ | ジュ | ニヨ | リョ |
| 12. | kya | ギャ | キュ | キャ | ギョ |
| 13. | byo | ピョ | ヒユ | ビョ | ヒョ |
| 14. | gyo | キョ | ギユ | ギャ | ギョ |
| 15. | ryu | リュ | リョ | ニユ | リャ |

Part B:

Circle the correct combined character.

- | | | | | | |
|-----|------|----|----|----|-----------|
| | di* | ティ | テュ | デュ | <u>デイ</u> |
| 1. | wi | ヴィ | ウィ | ウェ | ウォ |
| 2. | du* | トゥ | テュ | ドゥ | デュ |
| 3. | fo | フィ | フェ | ファ | フォ |
| 4. | vo | ヴォ | ウオ | ヴュ | ヴィ |
| 5. | qwo* | グオ | クア | クオ | クイ |
| 6. | va | ウイ | ヴァ | ヴェ | ヴィ |
| 7. | ti* | デイ | デュ | テュ | ティ |
| 8. | tu* | ドウ | トゥ | テュ | ティ |
| 9. | je | ジェ | シェ | チェ | クエ |
| 10. | qwa* | ジャ | ファ | ツァ | クァ |
| 11. | ve | ウェ | ヴェ | クエ | シェ |
| 12. | gwa* | クァ | ファ | グァ | ヴァ |
| 13. | ye | クエ | イエ | ヴェ | ツエ |
| 14. | dyy* | デュ | ヴュ | ツァ | ツォ |
| 15. | che | ウェ | フェ | チェ | ヴェ |

*These spellings indicate the pronunciation. When typing, however, the "x" key is used to type small characters, rather than using these spellings.

Time _____:

Time _____:

なまえ _____

In My Home**Part A:** Label the places in this home with katakana characters.

1. bedroom (be ddo rū mu) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	2. shower (sha wā) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	3. toilet, restroom (to i re) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
4. living room (ri bi n gu rū mu) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	5. dining room (da i ni n gu rū mu) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	6. kitchen (ki cchi n) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

Part B: Complete the sentences below by describing where each household item is located.

1. The blender (mi ki sā) is in the kitchen.

ミキサーは キッチンに あります。

2. The sofa (so fa) is in the living room.

_____。

3. The slippers (su ri ppā) are in the restroom.

_____。

4. The microwave (de n shi* re n ji) is in the kitchen.

でんし _____ は _____ に あります。

5. The sewing machine (mi shi n) is in the closet (ku rō ze tto).

_____。

6. The desk lamp (de n ki* su ta n do) is in the bedroom.

でんき _____。

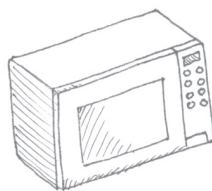
7. The table (tē bu ru) is in the dining room.

_____。

8. The iron (a i ro n) is in the closet (ku rō ze tto).

_____。

*hiragana



なまえ _____

Family Restaurant (Food, Part A)

menu (me nyū)

--	--	--	--



1. sandwich (sa n do i cchi)

--	--	--	--	--	--

¥400

13. melon soda float (ku ri i mu sō da)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¥400

2. cheese pizza (chi i zu pi za)

--	--	--	--	--

¥400

14. tomato juice (to ma to jū su)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¥300

3. hamburger (ha n bā gā)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¥450

15. orange juice (o re n ji jū su)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¥300

4. hotdog (ho tto do ggu)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¥350

16. cola (kō ra)

--	--	--

¥350

5. spaghetti (su pa ge tti)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¥550

17. milk (mi ru ku)

--	--	--

¥300

6. ramen noodles (rā me n)

--	--	--	--

¥400

18. coffee (kō hi i)

--	--	--

¥350

7. curry rice (ka rē ra i su)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¥550

19. ice tea (a i su ti i)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¥350

8. hamburger steak (ha n bā gu)

--	--	--	--	--	--

¥750

20. pudding (pu ri n)

--	--	--

¥350

9. steak (su tē ki)

--	--	--	--

¥950

21. ice cream (a i su ku ri i mu)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¥350

10. French fries (po te to fu ra i)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¥350

22. sherbet (shā be tto)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¥350

11. salad (sa ra da)

--	--	--

¥400

23. cheese cake (chi i zu kē ki)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¥400

12. soup (sū pu)

--	--	--

¥350



なまえ _____

Picnic Lunch (Food, Part B)

Taro has almost finished packing a picnic lunch.

He wants a few more fruits, snacks, utensils and condiments.

Write in katakana below the choices he could consider.



1. oranges (o re n ji)

--	--	--	--

2. bananas (ba na na)

--	--	--

3. melon (me ro n)

--	--	--

4. pineapple (pa i na ppu ru)

--	--	--	--	--	--

5. mango (ma n gō)

--	--	--	--

6. kiwi fruit (ki u i fu rŭ tsu)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

7. grapefruit (gu rē pu fu rŭ tsu)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

8. cherries (che ri i)

--	--	--	--

9. olives (o ri i bu)

--	--	--	--

10. avocado (a bo ka do)

--	--	--	--

11. tomato (to ma to)

--	--	--

12. lettuce (re ta su)

--	--	--

13. celery (se ro ri)

--	--	--

14. peanuts (pi i na ttsu)

--	--	--	--	--

15. potato chips (po te to chi ppu su)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

16. cookies (ku kki i)

--	--	--	--

17. crackers (ku ra kkā)

--	--	--	--	--

18. candy (kya n di i)

--	--	--	--	--	--

19. chocolate (cho ko rē to)

--	--	--	--	--	--

20. gum (ga mu)

--	--

21. popsicles (a i su kya n di i)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

22. cheese (chi i zu)

--	--	--

23. yogurt (yō gu ru to)

--	--	--	--	--

24. salad dressing (do re sshi n gu)

--	--	--	--	--	--

25. ketchup (ke cha ppu)

--	--	--	--	--

なまえ _____

Computers and Technology

1. computer (ko n pyū tā)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

2. personal computer (pa so ko n)

--	--	--	--	--

3. notebook computer (nō to pa so ko n)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

4. mouse (ma u su)

--	--	--

5. keyboard (ki i bō do)

--	--	--	--	--	--

6. monitor (mo ni tā)

--	--	--	--	--

7. printer (pu ri n tā)

--	--	--	--	--	--

8. software (so fu to)*

--	--	--	--

9. modem (mo de mu)

--	--	--	--

10. web (we bu)

--	--	--	--



11. internet (i n tā ne tto)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

12. home page (hō mu pē ji)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

13. email (mē ru)*

--	--	--	--

14. camera (ka me ra)

--	--	--	--

15. digital camera (de ji ka me)*

--	--	--	--	--

16. video camera (bi de o ka me ra)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

17. lens (re n zu)

--	--	--	--

18. film (fi ru mu)

--	--	--	--	--



19. TV; television (te re bi)

--	--	--	--

20. remote control (ri mo ko n)

--	--	--	--	--

21. video tape (bi de o tē pu)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

22. DVD player (DVD pu rē yā)

D	V	D					
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--

23. MP3 player (MP3 pu rē yā)

M	P	3					
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--

24. earphones (i ya ho n)

--	--	--	--	--

25. radio (ra ji o)

--	--	--	--

26. cell phone (kē ta i)**

--	--	--	--	--



* Although commonly abbreviated, "software" is also written ソフトウェア (so fu to we a); "email" is also 電子メール (de n shi mē ru) or イーメール (i i mē ru); "digital camera" is also デジタルカメラ (de ji ta ru ka me ra).

** "Cell phone" is commonly written in katakana, but is still officially written in kanji 携帯電話 (ke i ta i de n wa).

なまえ _____

Sports and Athletics

1. sports (su pō tsu)

--	--	--	--

2. Olympics (o ri n pi kku)

--	--	--	--	--	--

3. basketball (ba su ke tto bō ru)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

4. volleyball (ba rē bō ru)

--	--	--	--	--	--

5. golf (go ru fu)

--	--	--

6. football (a me fu to)*

--	--	--	--

7. lacrosse (ra ku ro su)

--	--	--	--

8. tennis (te ni su)

--	--	--

9. rugby (ra gu bi i)

--	--	--	--

10. soccer (sa kkā)

--	--	--	--

11. score (su ko a)

--	--	--

12. goal (gō ru)

--	--	--

13. team (chi i mu)

--	--	--



14. uniform (yu ni fō mu)

--	--	--	--	--	--

15. skiing (su ki i)

--	--	--

16. snowboarding (su nō bō do)

--	--	--	--	--	--

17. ice skating (a i su su kē to)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

18. ice hockey (a i su ho kkē)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

19. surfing (sā fi n)

--	--	--	--	--

20. diving (da i bi n gu)

--	--	--	--	--

21. skateboarding (su ke bō)*

--	--	--	--

22. wrestling (re su ri n gu)

--	--	--	--	--

23. boxing (bo ku shi n gu)

--	--	--	--	--

24. taekwondo (te ko n dō)

--	--	--	--	--

25. marathon (ma ra so n)

--	--	--	--



* Although commonly abbreviated, “(American) football” is also written アメリカンフットボール (a me ri ka n fu tto bō ru); “skateboarding” is also written スケートボード (su kē to bō do).

なまえ _____

Sound Symbolic Words

General Sounds

- The rain is pouring down.
あめが()ふっている。(zā zā)
- The wind is howling.
かぜが()と ふいている。(hyū hyū)
- The phone is ringing.
でんわが()と なっている。(ri i n)
- The microwave timer rang.
でんしレンジが()と なった。(chi n)
- The children made a lot of noise.
こどもが()さわいだ。(wa i wa i)

Animal Sounds

- Dogs say "Woof! Woof!"
いぬは()と なく。(wan wan)
- Cats say "meow."
ねこは()と なく。(nyā)
- Crows say "kah kah."
カラスは()と なく。(kā kā)
- Frogs say "ribbit."
かえるは()と なく。(ke ro ke ro)
- Mice say "squeak!"
ねずみは()と なく。(chū chū)
- Roosters say "cock-a-doodle-doo!"
にわとりは()と なく。(ko ke ko kkō)

Psychological States

- I'm excited (nervous/anxious; lit. my heart is pounding).
むねが()する。(do ki do ki)
- I'm excited (positive sense; lit. my heart is fluttering).
むねが()する。(wa ku wa ku)



なまえ

World Map: Africa

1. Algeria (a ru je ri a)

2. Angola (a n go ra)

3. Uganda (u ga n da)

4. Egypt (e ji pu to)

5. Ethiopia (e chi o pi a)

6. Eritrea (e ri to ri a)

7. Ghana (gā na)

8. Cape Verde (kā bo be ru de)

9. Canary Islands (ka na ri a sho tō)*

10. Gabon (ga bo n)

11. Cameroon (ka me rū n)

12. Gambia (ga n bi a)

13. Guinea (gi ni a)

14. Guinea-Bissau (gi ni a bi sa u)

15. Ivory Coast (kō to ji bo wā ru)

16. Sao Tome and Principe (sa n to me pu ri n shi pu)

17. Republic of the Congo (ko n go kyō wa ko ku)*

18. Democratic Republic of the Congo (ko n go mi n shu kyō wa ko ku)*

19. Kenya (ke ni a)

20. Comoros (ko mo ro)

21. Zambia (za n bi a)

22. Sierra Leone (she ra re o ne)

23. Djibouti (ji bu chi)

24. Zimbabwe (ji n ba bu e)

25. Sudan (sū da n)

26. Swaziland (su wa ji ra n do)

27. Seychelles (se i she ru)

28. Equatorial Guinea (se kī dō gi ni a)*

29. Senegal (se ne ga ru)

30. Somali (so ma ri a)

31. Tanzania (ta n za ni a)

32. Chad (cha do)

33. Tunisia (chu ni ji a)

34. Togo (tō go)

35. Nigeria (na i je ri a)

36. Namibia (na mi bi a)

37. Niger (ni jē ru)

38. Central African Republic (chū ō a fu ri ka)*

39. Western Sahara (ni shi sa ha ra)*

40. Burkina Faso (bu ru ki na fa so)

41. Burundi (bu ru n ji)

42. Benin (be na n)

43. Botswana (bo tsu wa na)

44. Madagascar (ma da ga su ka ru)

45. Malawi (ma ra u i)

46. Mali (ma ri)

47. Mauritius (mō ri sha su)

48. Mauritania (mō ri ta ni a)

49. Mozambique (mo za n bi i ku)

50. Morocco (mo ro kko)

51. Libya (ri bi a)

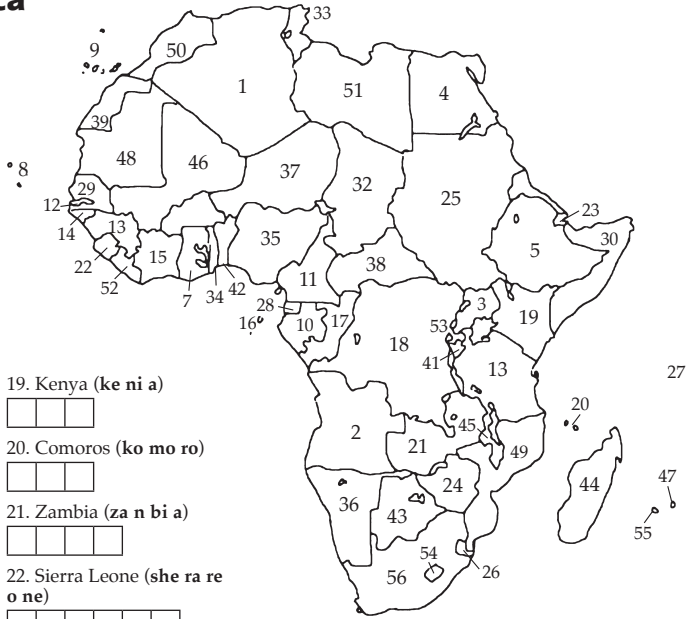
52. Liberia (ri be ri a)

53. Rwanda (ru wa n da)

54. Lesotho (re so to)

55. Reunion (re yu ni o n)

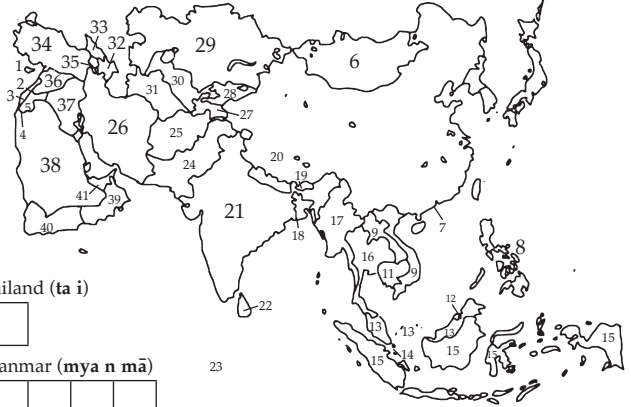
56. South Africa (mi na mi a fu ri ka)*

* *Italic* letters indicate the kanji pronunciation.

なまえ

World Map: Asia and the Middle East

(In Asia most country names are written in katakana, except for Japan 日本; North Korea 北朝鮮; South Korea 韓国; China 中国 and Taiwan 台湾.)



1. Cyprus (ki pu ro su)

--	--	--	--

2. Lebanon (re ba no n)

--	--	--	--

3. Palestine (pa re su chi na)

--	--	--	--	--

4. Israel (i su ra e ru)

--	--	--	--	--

5. Jordan (yo ru da n)

--	--	--	--

6. Mongolia (mo n go ru)

--	--	--	--

7. Macao (ma ka o)

--	--	--

8. Philippines (fi ri pi n)

--	--	--	--	--

9. Vietnam (be to na mu)

--	--	--	--

10. Laos (ra o su)

--	--	--

11. Cambodia (ka n bo ji a)

--	--	--	--	--

12. Brunei (bu ru ne i)

--	--	--	--

13. Malaysia (ma rē shi a)

--	--	--	--	--

14. Singapore (shi n ga pō ru)

--	--	--	--	--	--

15. Indonesia (i n do ne shi a)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

16. Thailand (ta i)

--	--

17. Myanmar (mya n mā)

--	--	--	--	--

18. Bangladesh (ba n gu ra de shu)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

19. Bhutan (bū ta n)

--	--	--	--

20. Nepal (ne pā ru)

--	--	--	--

21. India (i n do)

--	--	--

22. Sri Lanka (su ri ra n ka)

--	--	--	--	--

23. Maldives (mo ru di vu)

--	--	--	--	--

24. Pakistan (pa ki su ta n)

--	--	--	--	--

25. Afghanistan (a fu ga ni su ta n)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

26. Iran (i ra n)

--	--	--

27. Tajikistan (ta ji ki su ta n)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

28. Kyrgyz (ki ru gi su)

--	--	--	--

29. Kazakhstan (ka za fu su ta n)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

30. Uzbekistan (u zu be ki su ta n)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

31. Turkmenistan (to ru ku me ni su ta n)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

32. Azerbaijan (a ze ru ba i ja n)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

33. Georgia (gu ru ji a)

--	--	--	--

34. Turkey (to ru ko)

--	--	--

35. Armenia (a ru me ni a)

--	--	--	--	--

36. Syria (shi ri a)

--	--	--

37. Iraq (i ra ku)

--	--	--

38. Saudi Arabia (sa u ji a ra bi a)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

39. Oman (o mā n)

--	--	--	--

40. Yemen (i e me n)

--	--	--	--

41. UAE* (a ra bu shu chō koku ren pō)

				首	長	国	連	邦
--	--	--	--	---	---	---	---	---

* (United Arab Emirates, *italic* letters indicate the kanji pronunciation.)

World Map: Europe

1. Iceland (a i su ra n do)

--	--	--	--	--	--

2. Ireland (a i ru ra n do)

--	--	--	--	--	--

3. Albania (a ru ba ni a)

--	--	--	--	--

4. Andorra (a n do ra)

--	--	--	--

5. England (i gi ri su)

--	--	--	--

6. Italy (i ta ri a)

--	--	--	--

7. Ukraine (u ku ra i na)

--	--	--	--	--

8. Estonia (e su to ni a)

--	--	--	--	--

9. Austria (ō su to ri a)

--	--	--	--	--	--

10. Holland (o ra n da)

--	--	--	--

11. Greece (gi ri sha)

--	--	--	--

12. Croatia (ku ro a chi a)

--	--	--	--	--

13. San Marino (sa n ma ri no)

--	--	--	--	--

14. Gibraltar (gi bu ra ru ta ru)

--	--	--	--	--	--

15. Switzerland (su i su)

--	--	--

16. Sweden (su wē de n)

--	--	--	--	--

17. Spain (su pe i n)

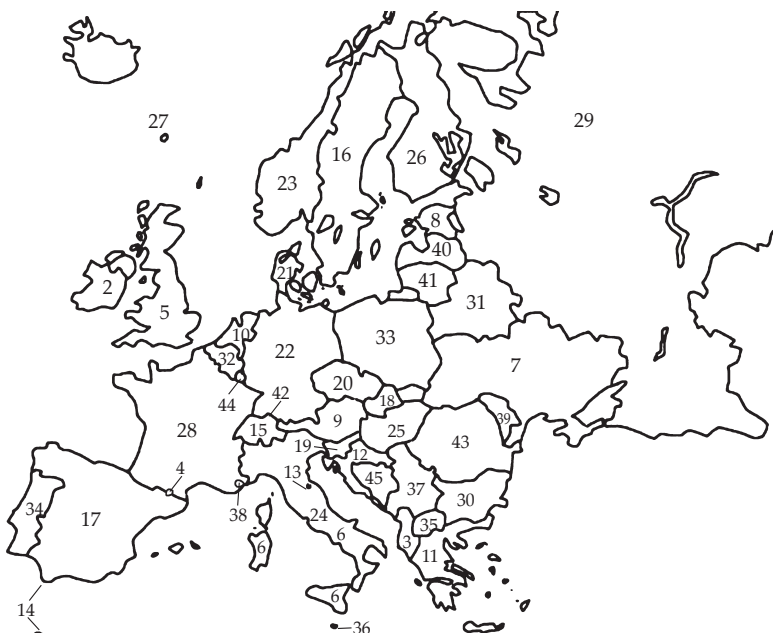
--	--	--	--

18. Slovakia (su ro ba ki a)

--	--	--	--	--

19. Slovenia (su ro be ni a)

--	--	--	--	--



20. Czech Republic (che ko)

--	--	--

21. Denmark (de n mā ku)

--	--	--	--

22. Germany (do i tsu)

--	--	--

23. Norway (no ru wē)

--	--	--	--

24. Vatican City (ba chi ka n)

				市国
--	--	--	--	----

25. Hungary (ha n ga ri i)

--	--	--	--

26. Finland (fi n ra n do)

--	--	--	--	--

27. Faroe Islands (fe rō sho tō)*

				諸島
--	--	--	--	----

28. France (fu ra n su)

--	--	--	--

29. Russia (ro shi a)

--	--	--

30. Bulgaria (bu ru ga ri a)

--	--	--	--

31. Belarus (be ra rū shi)

--	--	--	--

32. Belgium (be ru gi i)

--	--	--	--

33. Poland (pō ra n do)

--	--	--	--

34. Portugal (po ru to ga ru)

--	--	--	--

35. Macedonia (ma ke do ni a)

--	--	--	--

36. Malta (ma ru ta)

--	--	--

37. Serbia and Montenegro (se ru bi a • mo n te ne gu ro)

38. Monaco (mo na ko)

--	--	--

39. Moldova (mo ru do ba)

--	--	--	--

40. Latvia (ra to bi a)

--	--	--	--

41. Lithuania (ri to a ni a)

--	--	--	--	--

42. Liechtenstein (ri hi te n shu ta i n)

43. Romania (rū ma ni a)

--	--	--	--	--

44. Luxembourg (ru ku se n bu ru ku)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

45. Bosnia and Herzegovina (bo su ni a • he ru tse go bi na)

* *Italic* letters indicate the kanji pronunciation.

なまえ

World Map: North and South America

1. Greenland (gu ri i n ra n do)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

2. Canada (ka na da)

--	--	--	--

3. United State of America
(a me ri ka ga sshū koku)*

						合衆国
--	--	--	--	--	--	-----

4. Mexico (me ki shi ko)

--	--	--	--	--

5. Guatemala (gu a te ma ra)

--	--	--	--	--	--

6. Belize (be ri i zu)

--	--	--	--	--

7. El Salvador (e ru sa ru ba do ru)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

8. Honduras (ho n ju ra su)

--	--	--	--	--	--

9. Nicaragua (ni ka ra gu a)

--	--	--	--	--	--

10. Costa Rica (ko su ta ri ka)

--	--	--	--	--	--

11. Panama
(pa na ma)

--	--	--	--	--

12. Bermuda Islands (ba myū da)

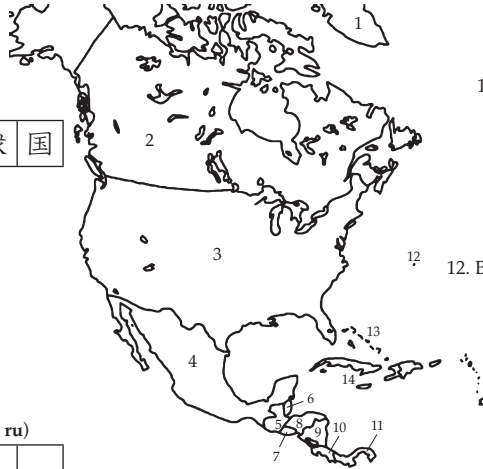
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13. The Bahamas (ba ha ma)

--	--	--	--	--

14. Cuba (kyū ba)

--	--	--	--	--



15. Venezuela (be ne zu e ra)

--	--	--	--	--	--

16. Colombia (ko ro n bi a)

--	--	--	--	--	--

17. Ecuador (e ku a do ru)

--	--	--	--	--	--

18. Guyana (ga i a na)

--	--	--	--	--

19. Suriname (su ri na mu)

--	--	--	--	--

20. French Guiana (fu ra n su ryō gi a na)*

						領			
--	--	--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--

21. Peru (pe rū)

--	--	--	--

22. Brazil (bu ra ji ru)

--	--	--	--	--

23. Bolivia (bo ri bi a)

--	--	--	--	--

24. Paraguay (pa ra gu a i)

--	--	--	--	--	--

25. Chile (chi ri)

--	--	--

26. Argentina (a ru ze n chi n)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

27. Uruguay (u ru gu a i)

--	--	--	--	--	--

28. Falkland Islands (fō ku ra n do sho tō)*

								諸島
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	----



* *Italic* letters indicate the kanji pronunciation.

なまえ _____

World Map: Oceania

1. American Samoa

(a me ri ka ryō sa mo a)*

				領			
--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--

2. Australia (ō su to ra ri a)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

3. Northern Mariana Islands

(ki ta ma ri a na sho tō)*

北						諸島
---	--	--	--	--	--	----

4. Kiribati (ki ri ba su)

--	--	--	--

5. Guam (gu a mu)

--	--	--

6. Cook Islands (ku kku sho tō)*

			諸島
--	--	--	----

7. Samoa (sa mo a)

--	--	--

8. Solomon Islands (so ro mo n sho tō)*

				諸島
--	--	--	--	----

9. Tuvalu (tsu ba ru)

--	--	--

10. Tonga (to n ga)

--	--	--

11. Nauru (na u ru)

--	--	--

12. New Caledonia (nyū ka re do ni a)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

13. New Zealand (nyū ji i ra n do)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

14. Vanuatu (ba nu a tsu)

--	--	--	--

15. Papua New Guinea (pa pu a nyū gi ni a)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

16. Palau (pa ra o)

--	--	--

17. Fiji (fi ji i)

--	--	--	--

18. Marshall Islands (mā sha ru sho tō)*

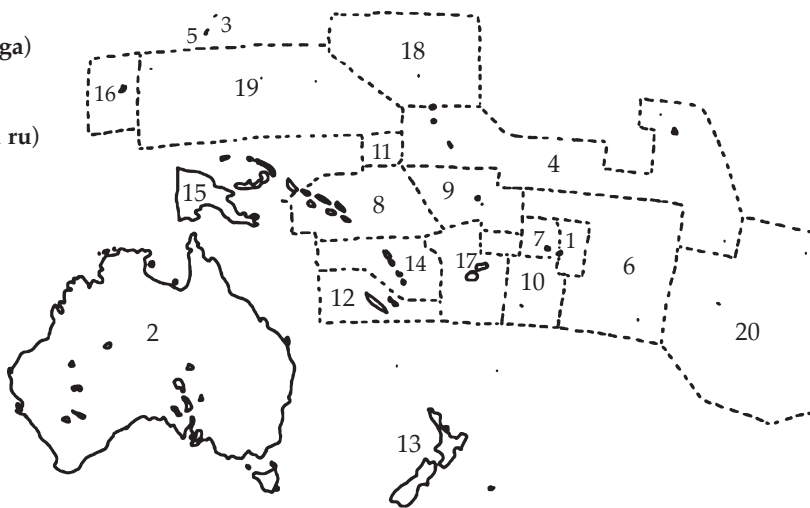
					諸島
--	--	--	--	--	----

19. Micronesia (mi ku ro ne shi a)

--	--	--	--	--	--

20. French Polynesia (fu ra n su ryō po ri ne shi a)*

				領					
--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--	--



*Italic letters indicate the kanji pronunciation.

Answers

Commonly Mistaken Katakana (page 174) Part A 1. コ 2. ナ 3. ヌ 4. ス 5. ツ 6. ソ 7. テ 8. ウ 9. ク 10. ニ 11. ト 12. シ 13. チ 14. ケ 15. サ 16. カ 17. タ Part B 1. ノ 2. ム 3. リ 4. モ 5. ネ 6. ハ 7. ヨ 8. ロ 9. ヤ 10. メ 11. ヒ 12. ル 13. マ 14. ミ 15. ラ 16. フ 17. ユ

Commonly Mistaken Combined Characters (page 175) Part A 1. ギャ 2. シャ 3. ニョ 4. ミュ 5. ジョ 6. ピュ 7. キョ 8. チュ 9. ビャ 10. ヒャ 11. リョ 12. キャ 13. ビョ 14. ギョ 15. リュ Part B 1. ウィ 2. ドゥ 3. フォ 4. ヴォ 5. クォ 6. ヴァ 7. ティ 8. トゥ 9. ジェ 10. クァ 11. ヴェ 12. グァ 13. イェ 14. デュ 15. チェ

In My Home (page 176) Part A 1. ベッドルーム 2. シャワー 3. トイレ 4. リビングルーム 5. ダイニングルーム 6. キッチン Part B 2. ソファ、リビングルーム 3. スリッパ、トイレ 4. レンジ、キッチン 5. ミシン、クローゼット 6. スタンド、ベッドルーム 7. テーブル、ダイニングルーム 8. アイロン、クローゼット

Family Restaurant (Food, Part A) (page 177) メニュー 1. サンドイッチ 2. チーズピザ 3. ハンバーガー 4. ホットドッグ 5. スパゲッティ 6. ラーメン 7. カレーライス 8. ハンバーグ 9. ステーキ 10. ポテトフライ 11. サラダ 12. スープ 13. クリームソーダ 14. トマトジュース 15. オレンジジュース 16. コーラ 17. ミルク 18. コーヒー 19. アイスティー 20. プリン 21. アイスクリーム 22. シャーベット 23. チーズケーキ

Picnic Lunch (Food, Part B) (page 178) 1. オレンジ 2. バナナ 3. メロン 4. パイナップル 5. マンゴー 6. キウイフルーツ 7. グレープフルーツ 8. チェリー 9. オリーブ 10. アボカド 11. トマト 12. レタス 13. セロリ 14. ピーナッツ 15. ポテトチップス 16. クッキー 17. クラッカー 18. キャンディー 19. チョコレート 20. ガム 21. アイスキャンディー 22. チーズ 23. ヨーグルト 24. ドレッシング 25. ケチャップ

Computers and Technology (page 179) 1. コンピューター 2. パソコン 3. ノートパソコン 4. マウス 5. キーボード 6. モニター 7. プリンター 8. ソフト 9. モデム 10. ウェブ 11. インターネット 12. ホームページ 13. メール 14. カメラ 15. デジカメ 16. ビデオカメラ 17. レンズ 18. フィルム 19. テレビ 20. リモコン 21. ビデオテープ 22. プレーヤー 23. プレーヤー 24. イヤホン 25. ラジオ 26. ケータイ

Sports and Athletics (page 180) 1. スポーツ 2. オリンピック 3. バスケットボール 4. バレーボール 5. ゴルフ 6. アメフト 7. ラクロス 8. テニス 9. ラグビー 10. サッカー 11. スコア 12. ゴール 13. チーム 14. ユニフォーム 15. スキー 16. スノーボード 17. アイススケート 18. アイスホッケー 19. サーフィン 20. ダイビング 21. スケボー 22. レスリング 23. ボクシング 24. テコンドー 25. マラソン

Sound Symbolic Words (page 181) 1. ザーザー 2. ヒューヒュー 3. リーン 4. チン 5. ワイワイ 6. ワンワン 7. ニャー 8. カーカー 9. ケロケロ 10. チューチュー 11. コケ コッコ 12. ドキドキ 13. ワクワク

World Map: Africa (page 182) 1. アルジェリア 2. アンゴラ 3. ウガンダ 4. エジプト
5. エチオピア 6. エリトリア 7. ガーナ 8. カーボベルデ 9. カナリア 10. ガボン 11. カ
メルーン 12. ガンビア 13. ギニア 14. ギニアビサウ 15. コートジボワール 16. サン
トメプリンシペ 17. コンゴ 18. コンゴ 19. ケニア 20. コモロ 21. ザンビア 22. シエラ
レオネ 23. ジブチ 24. ジンバブエ 25. スーダン 26. スワジランド 27. セイシェル 28.
ギニア 29. セネガル 30. ソマリア 31. タンザニア 32. チャド 33. チュニジア 34. ト
ーゴ 35. ナイジェリア 36. ナミビア 37. ニジェール 38. アフリカ 39. サハラ 40. ブ
ルキナファソ 41. ブルンジ 42. ベナン 43. ボツワナ 44. マダガスカル 45. マラウイ
46. マリ 47. モーリシャス 48. モーリタニア 49. モザンビーク 50. モロッコ 51. リビア
52. リベリア 53. ルワンダ 54. レソト 55. レユニオン 56. アフリカ

World Map: Asia and the Middle East (page 183) 1. キプロス 2. レバノン 3. パレ
スチナ 4. イスラエル 5. ヨルダン 6. モンゴル 7. マカオ 8. フィリピン 9. ベトナム
10. ラオス 11. カンボジア 12. ブルネイ 13. マレーシア 14. シンガポール 15. イン
ドネシア 16. タイ 17. ミャンマー 18. バングラデシュ 19. ブータン 20. ネパール
21. インド 22. スリランカ 23. モルディヴ 24. パキスタン 25. アフガニスタン 26. イラン
27. タジキスタン 28. キルギス 29. カザフスタン 30. ウズベキスタン 31. トルクメ
ニスタン 32. アゼルバイジャン 33. グルジア 34. トルコ 35. アルメニア 36. シリア
37. イラク 38. サウジアラビア 39. オマーン 40. イエメン 41. アラブ

World Map: Europe (page 184) 1. アイスランド 2. アイルランド 3. アルバニア 4. アン
ドラ 5. イギリス 6. イタリア 7. ウクライナ 8. エストニア 9. オーストリア 10. オランダ
11. ギリシャ 12. クロアチア 13. サンマリノ 14. ジブラルタル 15. スイス 16. スウェー
デン 17. スペイン 18. スロバキア 19. スロベニア 20. チェコ 21. デンマーク 22. ドイ
ツ 23. ノルウェー 24. バチカン 25. ハンガリー 26. フィンランド 27. フェロー 28. フラ
ンス 29. ロシア 30. ブルガリア 31. ベラルーシ 32. ベルギー 33. ポーランド 34. ポ
ルトガル 35. マケドニア 36. マルタ 37. セルビア・モンテネグロ 38. モナコ 39. モ
ルドバ 40. ラトビア 41. リトアニア 42. リヒテンシュタイン 43. ルーマニア 44. ルクセ
ンブルク 45. ボスニア・ヘルツェゴビナ

World Map: North America and South America (page 185) 1. グリーンランド 2. カナ
ダ 3. アメリカ 4. メキシコ 5. グアテマラ 6. ベリーズ 7. エルサルバドル 8. ホンジュ
ラス 9. ニカラグア 10. コスタリカ 11. パナマ 12. バミューダ 13. バハマ 14. キュー
ーバ 15. ベネズエラ 16. コロンビア 17. エクアドル 18. ガイアナ 19. スリナム 20. フ
ランス、ギアナ 21. ペルー 22. ブラジル 23. ボリビア 24. パラグアイ 25. チリ 26. アル
ゼンチン 27. ウルグアイ 28. フォークランド

World Map: Oceania (page 186) 1. アメリカ、サモア 2. オーストラリア 3. マリアナ
4. キリバス 5. グアム or グァム 6. クック 7. サモア 8. ソロモン 9. ツバル 10. トン
ガ 11. ナウル 12. ニューカレドニア 13. ニュージーランド 14. バヌアツ 15. パプア
ニューギニア 16. パラオ 17. フィジー 18. マーシャル 19. ミクロネシア 20. フラン
ス、ポリネシア

Flash Card Practice Activities

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Acknowledgments

I am deeply grateful to the many individuals who have contributed valuable comments and suggestions on this book. I am particularly grateful to former colleagues at the American School in Japan: For help especially on hiragana sections, Clark Tenney, Keiko Yasuno, Keiko Ando, Sumino Hirano, Mariko Smisson, Jo Ash, Anita Gesling, Maki Ushigome, Machiko Romaine, Naoko Pennell, and Leslie Birkland; for help especially on katakana sections, Keiko Yasuno, Keiko Ando, Sumino Hirano, Mariko Smisson, Yuko Hayashi, and Clark Tenney. I also wish to thank Noriko Okada (Waterford School) and Shauna Stout for their careful proof-reading and valuable feedback. Many others offered their support, and I wish to sincerely thank Dr. Masakazu Watabe, LaNae Stout, Linda Gerber, Shauna Stout, and Ricky Stout. I also wish to thank the helpful people at Tuttle Publishing.

The CD-ROM contains these helpful resources:

- 600 Common Names.pdf
A list of common English female and male first names, with their **katakana** versions.
- Flash Card Practice Activities.pdf
- Printable Flash Cards:
 - for all **hiragana** characters
 - for all **katakana** characters
- Self quiz
- Bonus writing practice pages

300 Common Female Names

Aleah アリーヤ	Ayanna アヤナ	Cynthia シンシア
Abby アビー	Bailey ベイリー	Daisy デイジー
Abigail アビゲール	Bethany ベサニー	Dakota ダコタ
Adriana エイドリアナ	Bianca ビアンカ	Dana デイナ
Adrienne エイドリエン	Brandi ブランディ	Daniela ダニエラ
Aileen アイリーン	Brenda ブレンダ	Danielle ダニエール
Aisha アイシャ	Brenna ブレナ	Deanna デアナ
Alana アラーナ	Brianna ブリアナ	Deja ディア
Alejandra アレハンドラ	Brianne ブリアーン	Delaney デイレニ
Alexa アレクサ	Bridget ブリジット	Denise デニース
Alexandra アレクサンドラ	Brooke ブルック	Desiree デザリー
Alexandria アレクサンドリア	Brooklyn ブルックリン	Destiny デスティニー
Alexia アレクシア	Callie カリー	Devin デヴィン
Alexis アレクシス	Cameron キャメロン	Diamond ダイアモンド
Alicia アリシア	Camille カミール	Diana ダイアナ
Allie アリー	Candace キャンディス	Dominique ドミニク
Allison アリソン	Carissa カリッサ	Elena エレーナ
Alondra アロンドラ	Carly カーリー	Elise エリーズ
Alyssa アリッサ	Carmen カーメン	Elizabeth エリザベス
Amanda アマンダ	Carolina キャロライナ	Emily エミリー
Amber アンバー	Caroline キャロライン	Emma エマ
Amelia アメリア	Carolyn キャロリン	Erica エリカ
Amy エイミー	Carrie キャリー	Erin エリン
Anastasia アナスタシア	Casey ケイシー	Esmeralda エスメラルダ
Andrea アンドリア	Cassandra カサンドラ	Esther エスター
Angel エンジェル	Cassidy キャシディー	Eva エヴァ
Angela アンジェラ	Cassie キャシー	Evelyn エヴァリン
Angelica アンジェリカ	Cecilia セシリア	Faith フェイス
Angelina アンジェリーナ	Celeste セレスト	Francesca フランシスカ
Anna アナ	Charlotte シャーロット	Gabriela ガブリエラ
Anne アン	Chelsey チェルシー	Gabrielle ガブリエル
April エイプリル	Cheyenne シャイアン	Genesis ジェネシス
Ariana エリアナ	Chloe クロエ	Gianna ジアナ
Ariel アリエル	Christina クリスティーナ	Gina ジーナ
Ashley アシュリー	Christine クリスティーン	Giselle ジゼル
Ashlyn アシュリン	Christy クリスティ	Grace グレース
Ashton アシュトン	Cindy シンディ	Guadalupe グアダルーペ
Asia アジア	Claire クレア	Haley ヘイリー
Aubrey オーブリー	Clarissa クラリッサ	Hallie ハリー
Audrey オードリー	Claudia クローディア	Hannah ハナ
Autumn オータム	Courtney コートニー	Harley ハーリー
Avery エイヴァリー	Crystal クリスタル	Heather ヘザー

Heidi ハイディ	Kelsey ケルシー	Melanie メラニー
Holly ホリー	Kendall ケンダル	Melissa メリッサ
Hope ホープ	Kendra ケンドラ	Mercedes メルセデス
Hunter ハンター	Kennedy ケネディ	Meredith メレディス
Imani イマニ	Kiana キアナ	Mia ミア
Isabel イザベル	Kiara キアラ	Michelle ミシェル
Isabella イザベラ	Kimberly キンバリー	Miranda ミランダ
Jacey ジェイシー	Kirsten カーステン	Miriam ミリアム
Jacqueline ジャクリーン	Krista クリスタ	Molly モリー
Jada ジェイダ	Kristen クリステン	Monica モニカ
Jade ジェイド	Kyla カイラ	Monique モニーク
Jaelyn ジェイリン	Kylie カイリー	Morgan モーガン
Jailene ジェイリーン	Kyra カイラ	Nadia ナディア
Jamie ジェイミー	Lacey レイシー	Nancy ナンシー
Janae ジェネイ	Laura ローラ	Naomi ナオミ
Janelle ジャネル	Lauren ローレン	Natalia ナタリア
Jasmine ジャスミン	Leah リア	Natalie ナタリー
Jenna ジェナ	Leann リアン	Natasha ナターシャ
Jennifer ジェニファー	Leslie レスリー	Nia ニア
Jenny ジェニー	Lexi レクシー	Nicole ニコール
Jessica ジェシカ	Lillian リリアン	Nina ニーナ
Jessie ジェシー	Lily リリー	Olivia オリビア
Jillian ジリアン	Linda リンダ	Paige ペイジ
Joanna ジョアナ	Lindsey リンジー	Paola パオラ
Jocelyn ジョスリン	Lisa リサ	Patricia パトリシア
Jordan ジョーダン	Lizette リゼット	Peyton ペイトン
Julia ジュリア	Logan ローガン	Priscilla プリシラ
Juliana ジュリアナ	Lydia リディア	Rachel レーチェル
Julie ジュリー	Mackenzie マッケンジー	Raquel ラケル
Julissa ジュリッサ	Macy メイシー	Raven レイヴン
Kaitlyn ケイトリン	Madeline マデライン	Reagan レーガン
Kara キャラ	Madison マディソン	Rebecca レベッカ
Karen カレン	Maggie マギー	Renee レネー
Karina カリーナ	Makayla マケイラ	Reyna レイナ
Karla カーラ	Mallory マロリー	Riley ライリー
Kate ケイト	Margaret マーガレット	Robyn ロビン
Katherine キャサリン	Maria マリア	Rosa ローザ
Kathleen キャスリーン	Mariah マライア	Rose ローズ
Katie ケイティ	Mariana マリアナ	Ruby ルビー
Katrina カトリーナ	Marissa マリッサ	Sabrina サブリナ
Kayla ケイラ	Mary メリー、メアリー	Sadie セイディ
Kaylee ケイリー	Maya マイヤ	Samantha サマンサ
Kaylin ケイリン	Mckenna マッケナ	Sandra サンドラ
Kelly ケリー	Megan メーガン	Sarah サラ、セーラ

Savannah サバンナ
 Selena セレーナ
 Serena セリーナ
 Shania シャニア
 Shannon シannon
 Shauna ショウナ
 Shayla シェイラ
 Shelby シェルビー
 Sierra シエラ
 Skylar スカイラー
 Sophia ソフィア
 Sophie ソフィー
 Stacy ステイシー
 Stephanie ステファニー

Summer サマー
 Sydney シドニー
 Tabitha タバサ
 Talia タリア
 Tamara タマラ
 Tanya ターニャ
 Tara タラ
 Tatiana タチアナ
 Tara タラ
 Taya タヤ
 Taylor テイラー
 Teresa テレサ
 Tessa テッサ
 Tiana ティアナ

Tiara ティアラ
 Tiffany ティファニー
 Tori トーリ
 Tyra タイラ
 Valeria ヴァレリア
 Valerie ヴァレリー
 Vanessa ヴァネッサ
 Veronica ヴェロニカ
 Victoria ビクトリア
 Whitney ホイットニー
 Yasmine ヤスミン
 Yesenia ヤセニア
 Zoe ゴーイ

300 Common Male Names

Aaron アーロン
 Abraham エイブラハム
 Adam アダム
 Adrian エイドリアン
 Aidan エイダン
 Alan アラン
 Albert アルバート
 Alberto アルバートー
 Alec アレック
 Alejandro アレハンドロ
 Alex アレックス
 Alexander アレクサンダー
 Alexis アレクシス
 Alfredo アルフレード
 Andre アンドレ
 Andres アンドレス
 Andrew アンドリュー
 Andy アンディ
 Angel エンジェル
 Angelo アンジェロ
 Anthony アンソニー
 Antonio アントニオ
 Armando アルマンド
 Arthur アーサー
 Arturo アルツーロ

Ashton アシュトン
 Austin オースティン
 Avery エイヴエリー
 Bailey ベイリー
 Benjamin ベンジャミン
 Blake ブレーク
 Braden ブレーデン
 Bradley ブラッドリー
 Brady ブレイディ
 Brandon ブランドン
 Brendan ブレンダン
 Brennan ブレナン
 Brent プレント
 Brett プレット
 Brian ブライアン
 Brock ブロック
 Bryant ブライアント
 Bryce ブライス
 Bryson ブライソン
 Cade ケイド
 Caleb ケイレブ
 Calvin カルビン
 Cameron キャメロン
 Carl カーल
 Carlos カーロス

Carson カーソン
 Carter カーター
 Casey ケイシー
 Cesar シーザー
 Chad チャッド
 Chance チャンス
 Chandler チャンドラー
 Charles チャールズ
 Chase チェイス
 Christian クリスチャン
 Christopher クリストファー
 Clayton クレイトン
 Cody コーディー
 Colby コルビー
 Cole コール
 Colin コリン
 Colton コルトン
 Connor コナー
 Cooper クーパー
 Corbin コービン
 Corey コーリー
 Craig クレーグ
 Curtis カーティス
 Dakota ダコタ
 Dallas ダラス

Dalton ダルトン	Fernando フェルナンド	Jesse ジェシー
Damian デイミアン	Francisco フランシスコ	Jesus ヘスース
Damon デイモン	Frank フランク	Jimmy ジミー
Daniel ダニエル	Frederick フレドリック	Joe ジョー
Danny ダニー	Gabriel ガブリエル	Joel ジョエル
Dante ダンテ	Gage ゲイジ	John ジョン
Darian ダリアン	Garrett ガレット	Johnny ジョニー
Darius ダリアス	Gary ゲーリー	Jonah ジョナ
Darrell ダレル	Gavin ギャビン	Jonathan ジョナサン
Darren ダーレン	George ジョージ	Jordan ジョルダン
David デビッド、デイヴィッド	Gerardo ジェラルド	Jorge ホルヘ
Dawson ダーソン	Giovanni ジョバンニ	Jose ホゼ
Deandre デアンドレ	Grant グラント	Joseph ジョセフ
Dennis デニス	Grayson グレイソン	Joshua ジョシュア
Deonte デアンテ	Gregory グレゴリー	Josiah ジョサイア
Derek デレク	Griffin グリフィン	Josue ジョズエ
Deshawn デショーン	Harrison ハリソン	Juan ワン
Devin デビン	Hayden ヘイデン	Julian ジュリアン
Devonte デヴォンテ	Hector ヘクター	Julio フリオ
Diego ディエゴ	Henry ヘンリー	Justice ジャスティス
Dominic ドミニク	Hunter ハンター	Justin ジャスティン
Donald ドナルド	Ian イアン	Kaden ケイデン
Donovan ドノヴァン	Isaac アイザック	Keegan キーガン
Douglas ダグラス	Isaiah アイザヤ	Keith キース
Drake ドレーク	Ismael イスマイル	Kenneth ケネス
Drew ドルー	Israel イスラエル	Kevin ケビン
Dustin ダスティン	Ivan アイヴァン	Kobe コービー
Dylan デイラン	Jack ジャック	Kylar カイラー
Eddie エディ	Jackson ジャクソン	Kyle カイル
Edgar エドガー	Jacob ジェイコブ	Landon ランドン
Eduardo エドワルド	Jaden ジェイデン	Lane レーン
Edward エドワード	Jaime ジェイミー	Larry ラリー
Edwin エドウィン	Jake ジェイク	Lawrence ローレンス
Eli イーライ	Jalen ジェイレン	Leonardo レオナルド
Elias イライアス	James ジェイムス	Levi リーバイ
Elijah イライジャ	Jared ジェレッド	Liam リアム
Elliot エリオット	Jarrett ジェレット	Logan ローガン
Emmanuel イマニュエル	Jason ジェイソン	Lorenzo ロレンソ
Enrique エンリケ	Javon ジャヴオン	Louis ルイス
Eric エリック	Jay ジェイ	Lucas ルーカス
Esteban エステバン	Jeffrey ジェフリー	Luis ルイス
Ethan イーサン	Jeremiah ジェレマイヤ	Luke ルーク
Evan エバン	Jeremy ジェレミー	Malik マリク
Fabian ファビアン	Jerry ジェリー	Manuel マヌエル

Marco マルコ	Peyton ペイトン	Steven スティーヴン
Marcos マルコス	Phillip フィリップ	Tanner タナー
Marcus マーカス	Preston プレストン	Taylor テイラー
Mario マリオ	Quentin クエンティン	Terrance テランス
Mark マーク	Quinton クイントン	Terrell テレル
Martin マーティン	Rafael ラファエル	Theodore セオドア
Mason メイソン	Ramon ラモン	Thomas トマス
Matthew マシュー	Randy ランディ	Timothy ティモシー
Max マックス	Raul ラウル	Tommy トミー
Maxwell マクスウェル	Raymond レイモンド	Tony トニー
Micah マイカ	Reece リース	Travis トラビス
Michael マイケル	Reid リード	Trent トレント
Miguel ミゲール	Ricardo リカルド	Trenton トレントン
Miles マイルズ	Richard リチャード	Trevon トラヴォン
Mitchell ミッチェル	Ricky リッキー	Trevor トレヴァー
Mohammad モハメッド	Riley ライリー	Trey トレイ
Morgan モーガン	Robert ロバート	Tristan トリスタン
Nathan ネーサン	Roberto ロベルト	Troy トロイ
Nathaniel ナサニエル	Ronald ロナルド	Tucker タカー
Nicholas ニコラス	Ruben ルベン	Ty タイ
Noah ノア	Russell ラッセル	Tyler タイラー
Nolan ノーラン	Ryan ライアン	Tyrek タイリク
Omar オマー	Samuel サミュエル	Victor ヴィクター
Oscar オスカー	Scott スコット	Vincent ヴィンセント
Owen オーエン	Sean ショーン	Wesley ウェスリー
Pablo パブロ	Sebastian セバスチャン	William ウィリアム
Parker パーカー	Sergio セルジオ	Wyatt ワИАット
Patrick パトリック	Seth セス	Xavier ザビエル
Paul ポール	Shane シェーン	Zachariah ザカライヤ
Pedro ペドロ	Skyler スカイラー	Zachary ザカリー
Peter ピーター	Spencer スペンサー	Zane ゼイン

Flash Card Practice Activities for *Japanese Hiragana & Katakana for Beginners*

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Hiragana/Katakana Pick-up (small group): Place all the flash cards on a large surface face up, in order or mixed up. One person calls the name of a hiragana/katakana character and the other players try to quickly put their hand on it. The first one gets to keep it. Continue playing, and when all the flash cards are gone, count to see who has the most. The winner gets to be the “caller” for the next game!

3

"u" as in youth

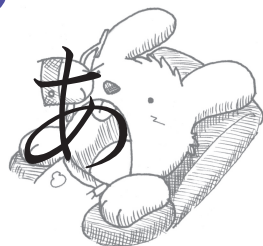
Ew! There's a bug on your ear!

2

"i" as in easy

the two "i"s in Hawaii

1

"a" as in father

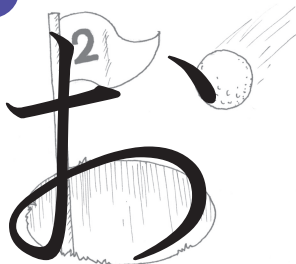
"Open your mouth and say 'Ah,'" says the dentist.

6

"ka" as in car

"**Kah!**" A crow cries as it flies to a tree on the top of a cliff.

5

"o" as in oak

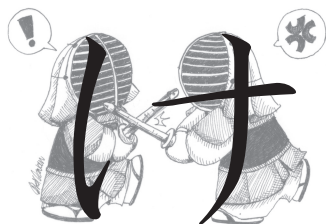
Oh! A hole in one!

4

"e" as in red

An **elf** is hanging ornaments on a Christmas tree.

9

"ke" as in kevin

Kendo is a traditional Japanese sport using wooden swords.

8

"ku" as in cuckoo

a **cuckoo's** beak

7

"ki" as in key

a **key**

12

"shi" as in she

She has a ponytail.

11

"sa" as in saw

He **saw** something that made him smile.

10

"ko" as in koala

A **koala** is climbing a tree.

15

"so" as in sewing machine



Fix the rip by sewing a zigzag stitch.

14

"se" as in set



Mother sets Baby on her lap.

13

"su" as in super



It's another perfect dive by Super Diver.

18

"tsu" as in tsuunami



Tsuunami waves can be very destructive.

17

"chi" as in cheer



a cheerleader

16

"ta" as in talk



"t" and "a" spell "ta"

21

"na" as in to gnaw



A beaver is gnawing on a tree.

20

"to" as in toe



Ouch! There's a thorn in my toe!

19

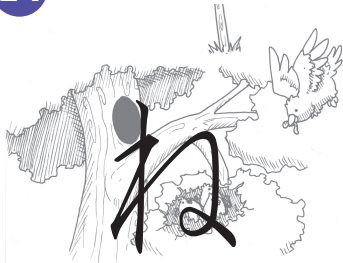
"te" as in ten



The shape of "te" is in the palm of your right hand, and the word for "hand" in Japanese is "te."

24

"ne" as in nest



a nest in a tree

23

"nu" as in nuw



a nuw bicycle

22

"ni" as in nee



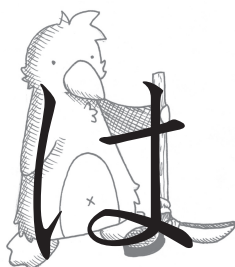
a nee

27

"hi" as in he

He has a big smile on his face.

26

"ha" as in hall

a hockey player

25

"no" as in no

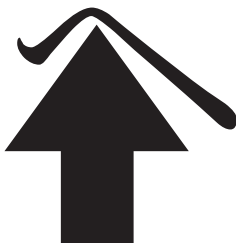
"No parking!"

30

"ho" as in hold

Holding the hockey stick
with two hands he is ready to play!

29

"he" as in heaven

an arrow pointing to heaven

28

"fu" as in who
(except the lips are
less rounded, and more
air escapes from the mouth)



Mount Fuji is a dormant volcano.
(Pronounce "fu" without touching
the upper teeth and lower lip.)

33

"mu" as in moo

Moo!

32

"mi" as in me

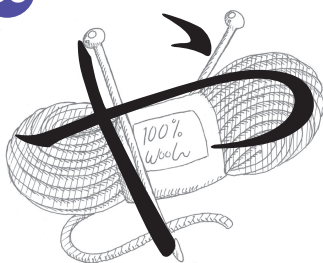
Who is number 21? Me!

31

"ma" as in mop

He will mop the floor.

36

"ya" as in yarn

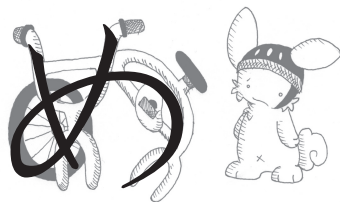
100% wool yarn

35

"mo" as in more

You can catch more fish
with more bait.

34

"me" as in Mexico

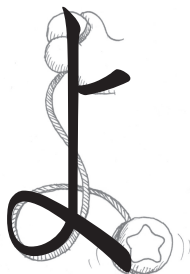
This bicycle needs a mechanic.

39

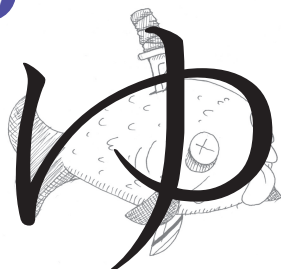
"ra" as in Rah! Rah! Rah!

Using a megaphone the fan cheered
for the team: Rah! Rah! Rah!

38

"yo" as in yo-yoa yo-yo

37

"yu" as in youYou stabbed the fish!

42

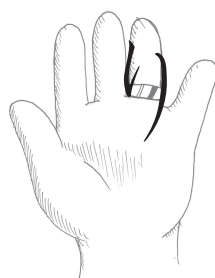
"re" as in radio

The radio tower was
struck by lightning.

41

"ru" as in rubythree (3) rubies

40

"ri" as in ringa ring on your finger

45

"o" as in old
(same pronunciation as お)

"Whoa!" calls the cowboy
to his horse. (the "w" is dropped
in modern Japanese)

44

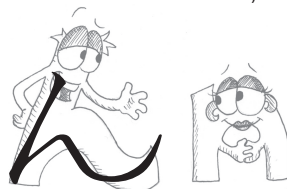
"wa" as in waterA waterfall is rushing past a tree.

43

"ro" as in rollThe three (3) rubies rolled away!

46

"n" as in ink
(pronounced by touching
the back of the tongue
to the roof of the mouth)



The single consonant syllable
"n" looks and sounds a little like
the English letter "n."

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37

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38

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39

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40

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41

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46

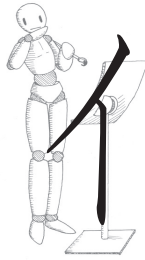
ん

3

"u" as in you

"Ooo!" The water balloon was cold as it splashed on his back!

2

"i" as in easy

An easel holds your picture while you work on it or display it.

1

"a" as in father

"AAAAA!" cried the critter as he fell off the edge of the cliff.

6

"ka" as in car

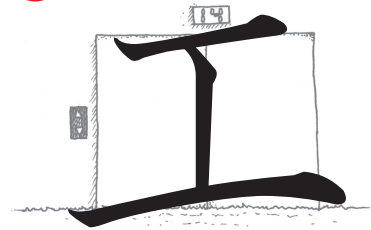
Katakana "ka" カ and hiragana "ka" か look a bit alike.

5

"o" as in oak

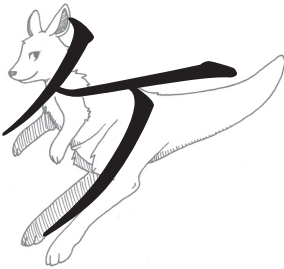
an Olympic figure skater

4

"e" as in red

elevator doors

9

"ke" as in Kevin

a kangaroo

8

"ku" as in cuckoo

a cool way to write seven (7)

7

"ki" as in key

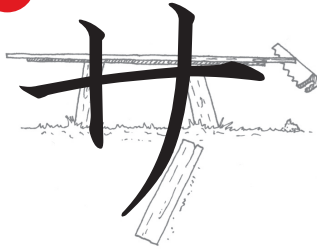
Katakana "ki" キ and hiragana "ki" き look a bit alike.

12

"shi" as in she

She tilted her head and smiled.

11

"sa" as in saw

A sawhorse holds wood while you cut it.

10

"ko" as in cocoa

a cup of hot cocoa

15

"so" as in so

When other kids said,
"You only have one eye,"
he said, "So!"

14

"se" as in set

Katakana "se" and hiragana "se"
look a little alike.

13

"su" as in super

It's Superman... er, super-critter.

18

"tsu" as in cats

Two children are
sliding down a slide.
("ts" like cats and "u" like you)

17

"chi" as in cheer

a cheerleader

16

"ta" as in tall

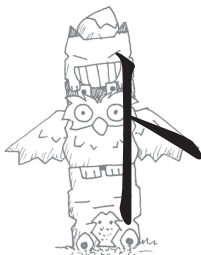
the leaning tower of Pisa
(In Japanese "tower" is pronounced
with a "ta" as in tall).

21

"na" as in nat

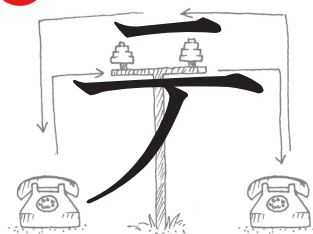
a knife

20

"to" as in totem

a totem pole

19

"te" as in telephone

a telephone pole and wires

24

"ne" as in nest

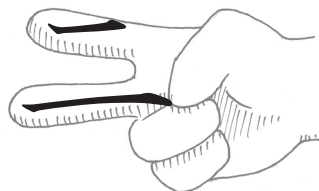
a nest on top of a tree

23

"nu" as in nuw

a nuw way to write seven (7)

22

"ni" as in nied

The Japanese word for "two" is ni.

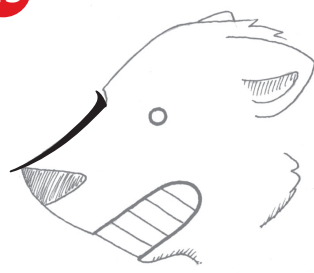
27

"hi" as in heHe drives the car.

26

"ha" as in hawkthe two wings of a fearsome hawk (or a slightly dazed-looking hawk)

25

"no" as in nosea nose

30

"ho" as in Ho! Ho!Mr. Ho Ho laughs even when stuck in a chimney!

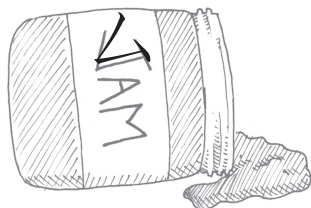
29

"he" as in helpNo significant differences between katakana "he" and hiragana "he."

28

"fu" as in Hoot!The owl cries, "Hoot! Hoot!" (Pronounce "fu" without touching the upper teeth and lower lip.)

33

"mu" as in mooI love jamu (jam)!

32

"mi" as in meowA cat's three whiskers, "Meow!"

31

"ma" as in momMom holds Baby while she attends to some work.

36

"ya" as in yarnHiragana "ya" and katakana "ya" look a bit alike.

35

"mo" as in moreHiragana "mo" and katakana "mo" look a bit alike.

34

"me" as in Mexico

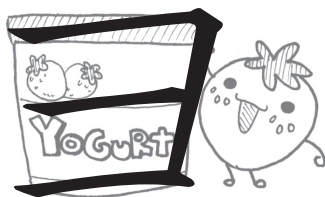
Mexico

the "X" in Mexico

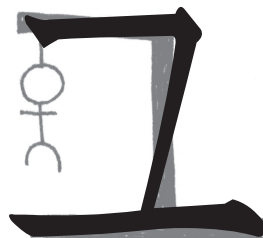
39

“ra” as in robbera robber

38

“yo” as in yogurtyogurt

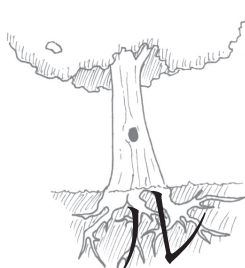
37

“yu” as in youYou won the “hangman” game!

42

“re” as in rainsplashing raindrops

41

“ru” as in rootstree roots

40

“ri” as in ringHiragana “ri” and katakana “ri” look a bit alike.

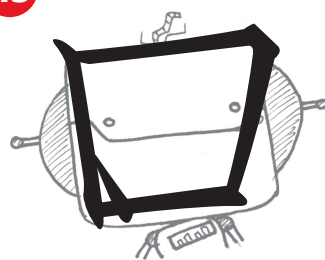
45

“o” as in oak
(same pronunciation as オ)“Oh,” this cookie is oishii (delicious)!”
(the “w” is dropped in modern Japanese)

44

“wa” as in water“I want a cookie!”

43

“ro” as in robota robot

46

“n” as in ink
(back of the tongue
touches the roof of the mouth)An inky black iguana
is getting a suntan.

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	/N/										

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なまえ_____

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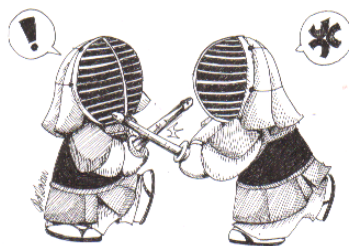
なまえ _____

	W	R	Y	M	H	N	T	S	K	*	
											A
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	/N/										

Hiragana Writing Practice 1

- | | |
|-----|------------------------|
| 1. | A KA (red) |
| 2. | A O (blue) |
| 3. | A KI (autumn) |
| 4. | I I (good) |
| 5. | I SU (chair) |
| 6. | O I SHI I (delicious) |
| 7. | U E (up, above) |
| 8. | U SHI (cow) |
| 9. | E KI (train station) |
| 10. | E E (yes – colloquial) |
| 11. | O O KI I (big) |
| 12. | KA (mosquito) |
| 13. | KA O (face) |
| 14. | O KA SHI (snacks) |
| 15. | I KE (pond) |
| 16. | KE SU (to erase) |

- | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|
| 17. | KO KO (here) |
| 18. | A SA (morning) |
| 19. | KA SA (umbrella) |
| 20. | A SHI (leg; foot) |
| 21. | SHI O (salt) |
| 22. | SHI KA (deer) |
| 23. | SU (vinegar) |
| 24. | SU SHI (sushi) |
| 25. | SU KI (like –
adjective) |
| 26. | SE KI (cough; seat) |
| 27. | SO KO (there) |
| 28. | U SO (lie; false) |



Hiragana Writing Practice 2 (T, N, H)

1. O KA NE (money)

2. SO TO (outside)

3. I NU (dog)

4. TA NO SHI I (fun)

5. NE KO (cat)

6. NA TSU (summer)

7. HA I (Yes)

8. SHI TA (under)

9. KU NI (country, nation)

10. HA KO (box)

11. I CHI (one)

12. HI KI NI KU (ground meat)

13. HI TO (person)

14. HI (fire, flame)

15. A TSU I (hot)

16. FU E (flute)

17. KU TSU (shoes)

18. SHI NU (to die)

19. O HE SO (belly button)

20. I TA I (Ouch!)

21. NI KU (meat)

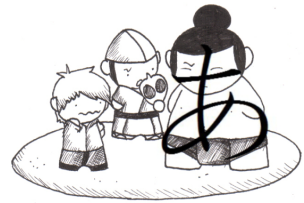
22. HE TA (unskillful)

23. U CHI (house)

24. HO SO I (thin)

25. CHI KA TE TSU (subway)

26. HO SHI (stars)



Hiragana Writing Practice 3 (M, Y, R, W, N)

- | | |
|-----|-----------------------|
| 1. | A MA I (sweet) |
| 2. | I MA (livingroom) |
| 3. | YA SU MI (vacation) |
| 4. | MI MI (ears) |
| 5. | MU RA SA KI (purple) |
| 6. | SA MU RA I (warrior) |
| 7. | ME (eyes) |
| 8. | KA ME (turtle) |
| 9. | MO MO (peach) |
| 10. | YA SU I (cheap) |
| 11. | YU KA (floor) |
| 12. | YU ME (dream) |
| 13. | SA YO NA RA (goodbye) |
| 14. | YO RU (night) |
| 15. | I KU RA (How much?) |
| 16. | KA RA I (spicy; hot) |

- | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| 17. | O TSU RI (change – money) |
| 18. | KU SU RI (medicine) |
| 19. | FU RU I (old – not people) |
| 20. | KA E RU (frog) |
| 21. | KI RE I (pretty, neat, clean) |
| 22. | U RE SHI I (happy) |
| 23. | HI RO I (wide, spacious) |
| 24. | U SHI RO (behind) |
| 25. | WA TA SHI (I, myself) |
| 26. | KA WA I I (cute) |
| 27. | E N (yen – money in Japan) |



Katakana Writing Practice 1

- | | |
|-----|--------------------------|
| 1. | A I SU (ice) |
| 2. | SU KO A (score) |
| 3. | A KU SE SU (access) |
| 4. | I KA (squid) |
| 5. | SA I (rhino) |
| 6. | KI U I (kiwi) |
| 7. | E KI SU (extract) |
| 8. | O SU KĀ (the Oscar) |
| 9. | O A SHI SU (oasis) |
| 10. | SĀ KA SU (circus) |
| 11. | KI SU (kiss) |
| 12. | SU I SU (Switzerland) |
| 13. | KĀ KI (khaki color) |
| 14. | SU KI I (to ski; skiing) |
| 15. | SA KU SE SU (success) |
| 16. | KĒ KI (cake) |

- | | |
|-----|-------------------------|
| 17. | Ō KĒ (okay) |
| 18. | KO KO A (cocoa) |
| 19. | SE I KŌ (Seiko company) |
| 20. | SHI I SŌ (seesaw) |
| 21. | KO SO KO SO (sneakily) |



Katakana Writing Practice 2

1. TA KU SHI I (taxi)

2. TA KO SU (taco)

3. KŌ CHI (coach)

4. SŪ TSU (suit)

5. TSU Ā (tour)

6. TE KI SU TO (textbook)

7. SU KĀ TO (skirt)

8. TE SU TO (test)

9. NA I FU (knife)

10. TSU NA (tuna)

11. KA TA KA NA (katakana)

12. TE NI SU (tennis)

13. SU NI I KĀ (sneakers)

14. KA NŪ (canoe)

15. A I NU (Indigenous
people of northern Japan)

16. NŌ TO (notebook)

17. HA SU KI I (husky dog)

18. KŌ HI I (coffee)

19. HI N TO (hint)

20. SO FU TO (software)

21. HE RI (helicopter)

22. HO TE RU (hotel)



なまえ_____

Katakana Writing Practice 3

1. TO MA TO (tomatoes)

2. MA I KU (microphone)

3. MI KI SĀ (blender)

4. CHI I MU (team)

5. HŌ MU SU TE I (home stay)

6. A NI ME (Japanese cartoons)

7. SHI NA MO N (cinnamon)

8. MO NI TĀ (monitor)

9. TA I YA (tire)

10. I YA HO N (earphones)

11. YŪ MO A (humor)

12. KU RE YO N (crayon)

13. YŌ YŌ (yo-yo)

14. KA ME RA (camera)

15. KU RA SU (school class)

16. A I SU KU RI I MU (ice cream)

17. HO TE RU (hotel)

18. MI RU KU (cow's milk)

19. RE SU TO RA N (restaurant)

20. RE SHI I TO (receipt)

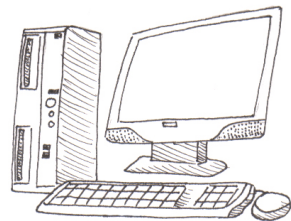
21. SU TO RŌ (drinking straw)

22. KI RO (kilogram; kilometer)

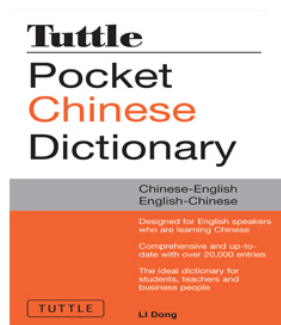
23. WĀ KU SHI I TO (worksheet)

24. WA I YA RE SU (wireless)

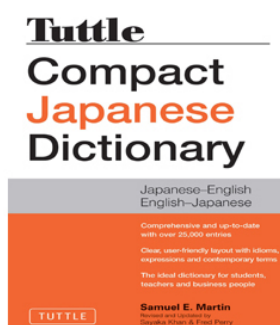
25. ME RO N (melon)



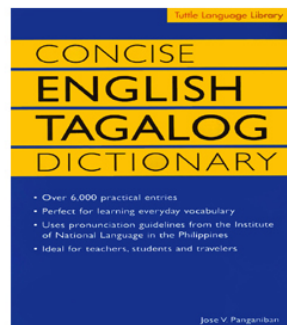
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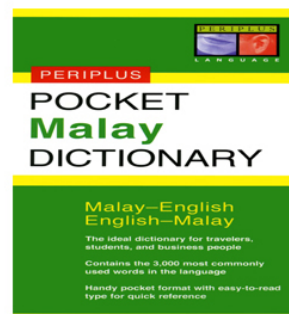
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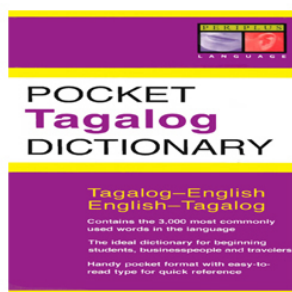
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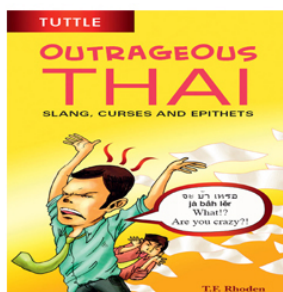
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- **Memorable picture mnemonics** help you to learn the characters by associating their shapes and sounds with combinations of images and English words already familiar to you.
- **Clear examples and entertaining exercises** offer opportunities to read, write, use and practice all 46 basic hiragana and 46 basic katakana characters, plus the remaining kana that stand for more complex sounds.
- **Polish your knowledge** with word searches, crossword puzzles, fill-in-the-blanks, timed recognition quizzes, and other interesting activities.
- **The CD-ROM** allows you to print out your own flash cards (featuring the same mnemonic images taught in the book) to help you review and practice, even while you're on the go.



Timothy G. Stout lived in Japan for 20 years, and has taught Japanese language in public and private schools in the United States and Japan for 14 years. While working at the American School in Japan he conducted original research on the use of keyword mnemonics in the instruction of Japanese. Stout has an M.A. in Japanese pedagogy from Columbia University and a B.A. in Japanese teaching from Brigham Young University. He currently teaches Japanese at Waterford School in Utah. Stout is the author of *Basic Japanese Kanji*, *Tuttle Japanese for Kids Flash Cards*, and *More Japanese for Kids Flash Cards* (available from Tuttle).

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